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HAITIAN KIDS USED AS SEX SLAVES: RCMP, PG10

Celebrity pg 31

Fergie sitting down with Oprah

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Local pg 2

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Sports pg 18

Cherry weighs in on Cup final

Entertainment pg 22

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Persia gets its game on

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Oil spill **Worst in U.S. history**

WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

A pelican tries to clean its wings while standing in the water on an island littered with protective orange and white booms Thursday near Grand Isle, La. New government estimates show the disaster has easily eclipsed the Exxon Valdez as the biggest oil spill in U.S. history. Story, page 11.

Seepage prompts oil scare in Burrard Inlet

Leakage through groundwater, says Chevron spokesman

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Chevron Canada has been unable to find the source of oil seepage into Burrard Inlet that has resulted in a small marina-like sheen on the water, a spokesman said Thursday.

Ray Lord said the seepage of hydrocarbons — crude oil, gasoline or diesel — doesn't present a danger to the public.

"We have seen a sheen from time to time at high tide," Lord said. "It's similar to what you might see at a marina. It's a sheen. There's not oil on the water at all."

B.C.'s Ministry of the Environment estimates the size of the leakage at 50 litres.

Lord said the source of the seepage is a mystery, but suspects it is a historic accumulation as the refinery has been in production since the mid-50s.

He said underground pipes are being tested for failure and noted the area is close to settling ponds.

Down at shore, crews are using soaker pads for spot cleanup and have isolated the area with containment and soaker booms over a 20-metre intertidal area. No sheen has been observed outside the boom.

"There's almost not enough to clean up, but we have a crew down there and we're doing our best to address it, should we see it."

Lord said evidence of oil began appearing in perimeter monitoring wells on the refinery property in 2009.

Last month, a routine tour of the site discovered oil, mixed with water, in a railway ditch downhill from the refinery.

Chevron said the oil was carried through groundwater. They have since seen small amounts of it on the shore of Burrard Inlet.

"This is not a leak, not a spill," Lord said. "It's material that has been picked up from our property and has been moved off site through the normal movement of groundwater."

Lord said the refinery immediately began pumping the material from its monitoring wells and dug a trench to intercept groundwater by the railway tracks. The recovered oil was pumped back to the refinery for processing.

Legal responsibilities

- Under the Environmental Management Act, Chevron is required to address the leak as quickly as possible and pay for all cleanup costs.
- Chevron has posted warning signage to keep people off the beach.

ShareYourViews
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

Police warn of 'Little Girl' parties

FACEBOOK Chilliwack police are warning parents about a group of high school boys who have been trying to lure pre-teen girls via Facebook to parties where they would get them drunk and sleep with them.

They are called "LG" parties, which stands for "Little Girl" parties, said RCMP Const. Tracy Wolbeck.

"This is something that has recently come to our attention and we are trying hard to monitor," Wolbeck said.

"The intent of these parties and the group mentality that goes along with them is what makes them very frightening for parents and police alike."

It's not the first time Facebook has been used recently by local teenage boys to try to lure younger girls.

Last week, RCMP in Surrey warned parents that Grade 11 and Grade 12 boys at Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary School in Cloverdale had started a Facebook page to seduce eighth-grade girls.

They called the group the "LGS Club" — the "Little Girl Slayers Club."

"I can't tie a definitive connection between what's going on in the (two schools)," Wolbeck said.

"At this point we haven't formally engaged in any investigation ... We don't have specific people or events to tie to it."

Wolbeck said police are cautioning parents to be vigilant about where their teenagers are going and with whom.

She suggests if kids are heading to a party that parents call ahead to make sure there will be adult supervision.

"Don't allow your kids to use the family computer in private," she said.

"Be aware of their Facebook contacts and the content of that contact."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

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Local

Ditch the car and hop on a bike

Monday marks the start of Bike To Work and School Week in the Lower Mainland. The regional initiative encourages people to begin cycling as a way to save money, promote health and improve air quality.

METRO VANCOUVER

Suspects ID'd in teen's death: RCMP

CRIME Mounties probing the murder of a Vancouver Island high school student say they have identified suspects in the March killing, but no one has been arrested.

Cpl. Darren Lagan said 18-year-old Kimberly Proctor knew the suspects, though he wouldn't say if they were classmates or reveal their ages.

"There are multiple suspects," he said Thursday after police began searching a home on Wednesday night in connection with Proctor's murder.

Lagan said police are appealing to other individuals who may have information to come forward and help solve the murder.

Proctor's burned body was discovered March 19 in a wooded ravine along the Galloping Goose hiking trail that runs from Victoria to Sooke.

Lagan said investigators are aware of the anxiety surrounding the slaying and took the unusual step of revealing suspects have been identified.

Proctor's murder was not random, investigators added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs TFC keeper Stefan Frei and Whitecaps play-by-play man Peter Schaad join It's Called Football.

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PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Finalists for the ITM-NSR Model Look North American modelling contest in Vancouver Thursday.

Models to lend hand in cancer fight

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

SHOW Twenty young Lower Mainland women will be modelling for cancer at an upcoming fashion show and fundraising dinner in Richmond as part of an annual local model search and contest.

The finalists were announced on Thursday as part of the sixth annual ITM-NSR Model Look North America 2010.

The winner will be selected to compete in China's largest modelling contest.

The contestants, aged 15 to 22, go through six weeks of training to develop their modelling skills before a Glamour Finale Show on July 8 at the River Rock Show Theatre in Richmond.

Ticket sales benefit the B.C. Cancer Foundation, which is especially meaningful for some of the finalists.

"Last year, my father lost his battle with cancer," said Stevi Ellis, 22, from Coquitlam. "I fully recognize and appreciate the importance of supporting the B.C. Cancer Foundation."

Alexia Fast, 17, from Vancouver, lost her great-grandfather and three uncles to cancer.

"My grandmother had breast cancer and survived," Fast said. "Now that I'm a young adult, I want to contribute to cancer research."

Tickets

- Finale Show tickets go on sale May 28 through Ticketmaster for $38 and $68.
- For more information visit itmmodel.com.

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See the Local page to learn how to scan.

HST campaign 1 riding away

Tax opponents expect to get enough signatures by weekend

KYLE FARQUHARSON
for Metro Vancouver

British Columbia's anti-HST campaigners say they expect to gather enough signatures across the province by this weekend to force the government to reconsider implementing the new tax.

Opponents of the harmonized sales tax have attained 10 per cent support in 84 of 85 electoral ridings thus far, and hope to achieve 15 per cent backing provincewide by the time they submit the petition to Premier Gordon Campbell's government on July 5.

"The HST is a cruel tax," said Port Coquitlam-based campaigner Chris Delaney, who added the tax would put undue pressure on working families.

Delaney added that many B.C. residents he's spoken to feel betrayed by Campbell's government and are concerned about the loss of provincial sovereignty that a federally administered harmonized tax would imply.

The Liberals announced plans to adopt the HST last year, two months after saying there would be no new taxes during a provincial election campaign.

Campbell and Finance Minister Colin Hansen have stressed the new tax will create jobs and help bring the province out of a recession, while accusing anti-HST campaigners of misleading the public.

The HST deal also came with $1.6 billion from the federal government, which the province has used to control its deficit.

Delaney suggested that in lieu of imposing the HST, the provincial government should consider internal structural changes to cut costs and increase revenue.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

PIPELINE Enbridge has filed an application with the National Energy Board for the construction and operation of the Northern Gateway Pipeline, which would run between Edmonton and Kitimat to export petroleum and import condensate. Greenpeace spokesperson Stephanie Goodwin said the pipeline would cause environmental damage.

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Anthem singers wanted

Performers are being invited to audition as anthem singers for the Vancouver Canadians baseball club. Tryouts, which involve singing both the American and Canadian anthems, are Sunday between 2 and 5 p.m at Nat Bailey Stadium. METRO VANCOUVER

Idol, wife pen tune about air pollution

MUSIC Canadian Idol alumnus Shane Wiebe and his wife, Angela, have released a new ditty to burn up the airwaves and, they hope, smother plans for additional garbage incinerators in the region.

Landfill In The Sky, sung by to the tune of Norman Greenbaum's Spirit In The Sky, is a "light way," Wiebe said, to bring attention to the issue of incinerators and air quality in the Fraser Valley.

"The landfill either ends up in the ground, the ocean or the air," Wiebe said.

"Research is showing us that burning our garbage just doesn't work, it simply creates particulate matter in our air."

JONETSU PHOTOGRAPHY

Angela and Shane Wiebe

But Metro Vancouver spokesman Bill Morrell said increased waste-to-energy incineration would improve air quality in the Fraser Valley because the garbage would not have to be transported through the valley to the region's landfill in Cache Creek.

He said incineration contributes about 0.3 per cent of fine particulate matter, compared to 15 per cent for open burning.

Metro Vancouver aims to divert 70 per cent of garbage by 2015 through recycling and composting. If it reaches that goal, it would however still be saddled with disposing more than one million tonnes of garbage a year.

Consultation is underway on a new integrated solid waste and resource management plan for the region.

JEFF HODSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Airy little tune

- A link to The Wiebes' Landfill In The Sky can be found on zerowastebc.org.

Man gets two years in jail after global child porn bust

SENTENCE A Lower Mainland man has been given two years in jail for child porn.

Lon Batchelor was the subject of an international investigation known as Operation Koala spanning four countries, Abbotsford Police said.

Australian authorities first learned of Batchelor while tracking to Belgium a video that showed a father sexually abusing his two daughters. That man was arrested and investigators there identified the video's producer. He was eventually caught in Italy and an audit of his computer led to some 50,000 emails and other information from customers, including Batchelor.

Batchelor will also face two-and-a-half years probation and be listed as a sex offender for 20 years. During that time he's forbidden from accessing the Internet and going to places frequented by children.

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Are you a cut above the competition?

Top Chef will be casting at EAT! Vancouver

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Casting directors for Canada's Top Chef — the spin-off of the Food Network's popular American show — will be in Vancouver this weekend, accepting applications from hopeful contestants.

Jennifer Pratt and Cliff Dempster will be at the eighth annual EAT! Vancouver Food + Cooking Festival at the Vancouver Convention Centre from Friday to Sunday.

Previously, the annual festival was held at B.C. Place, which is undergoing renovations to replace its roof.

"We are on the lookout for the best, brightest and most passionate chefs in the Vancouver area," said Pratt.

"Being on this show is an amazing opportunity for local culinary talent to not only win ... $100,000 but also to showcase their cooking chops."

Head judge, Toronto-based celebrity chef Mark McEwan, said the show is all about professionalism rather than drama.

"I think that's why it's really popular in Canada," he said. "We're looking for people with personality and a sense of showmanship, and first and foremost someone who can really boogie at the stove."

The series premieres in spring 2011 on Food Network Canada.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Celebrity chef Mark McEwan is the host of Top Chef Canada, which is accepting contestant applications at EAT! Vancouver this weekend.

Get involved

- For more information about the festival visit eatvancouver.com.
- To learn more about applying to Top Chef Canada visit foodnetwork.ca.

Applications are being accepted until June 14, but applications can be delivered in-person at EAT! this weekend.

The event — Canada's largest consumer food and cooking festival — features celebrity chefs, local restaurants, wineries, food manufacturers, cookbook authors, retailers and others from the culinary world.

Dead newborn orca not part of endangered group: Scientists

WILDLIFE A killer whale carcass found near Victoria earlier this month was that of a newborn calf that belonged to the transient killer whale population, according to Vancouver Aquarium researchers.

To Dr. Lance Barrett-Lennard, senior marine mammal scientist at the Aquarium, that's good news.

"There is some relief that the calf was not a member of the critically-endangered southern resident population, where every death moves the group closer to a breaking point," he said.

Transient killer whale calfs have only a roughly 60 per cent chance of surviving their first six months. Part of the reason is that their mothers are atop the ocean food chain. They accumulate large amounts of persistent organic pollutants in their bodies that get passed on to the calfs.

The dead calf attracted a lot of attention when it washed up on a beach near Sooke May 4. Like most whales, Orca carcasses usually sink to the ocean floor making it rare to find a beached carcass.

METRO VANCOUVER

Different genes

- Resident and transient orcas have not mated for hundreds of generations and are genetically different, despite sharing the same habitat, according to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

News in brief

THEFTS Chilliwack RCMP are warning homeowners about a rash of break-and-enters where thieves have been making off with tools in backyard sheds. Another thief or group of thieves have been breaking into homes and stealing home electronics after ringing the doorbell to make sure no one is home.

TENANTS Members of the Sahota family, who have been accused of being slumlords, have been ordered to pay some former tenants nearly $170,000 after the roof of their East Vancouver building collapsed, flooding apartments, CBC News Online reports. The building was evacuated after the city ordered it closed in 2007.

SUSPECT Police are on the hunt for Richard Wayne Heino, 21, who is wanted in connection with a bank robbery on May 25. He is also a person of interest in a May 3 heist in Abbotsford.

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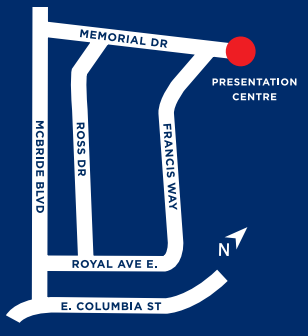

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MLA seeks protection for caves

New Democrat MLA Scott Fraser has proposed new legislation to protect cave ecosystems in B.C. The Cave Protection Act would give government the ability to prosecute vandals and regulate potentially harmful uses. METRO VANCOUVER

One in 10 die in rescues: Province

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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About one in 10 people in need of search and rescue in the British Columbia wilderness last year didn't come back alive, according to the provincial government.

From April 2009 to March 2010, search and rescue organizations in B.C. responded to roughly 1,400 rescue requests, and in 127 situations they came back empty-handed or with a dead body.

Among those cases, 85 people were found dead and 42 people were never found, the office of the Public Safety and Solicitor General said.

With summer fast approaching, Sandra Ferguson with AdventureSmart — which hosts programs on safe outdoor adventure travel — said the biggest mistake people make is to think an accident, like getting hurt or lost, won't happen to them.

"You can be on the backside of Mount Seymour and you're in backcountry. And people can get caught up in that."
Sandra Ferguson, AdventureSmart

She said Vancouverites often get a false sense of security when in the wilderness close to home, assuming that proximity to an urban environment means they will easily get found if something happens.

"We live in a populated area and yet there is quick and easy access to the back country," Ferguson said. "You can be on the backside of Mount Seymour and you're in backcountry. And people can get caught up in that.

Ferguson said even short outings close to home require preparation and people should always check weather conditions, know the terrain and difficulty, and tell someone where they are going and when they will return.

"It could be the difference between finding you within a few hours or a couple of days," she said.

AdventureSmart has a printable trip-planning guide in five languages it recommends filling out and leaving with friends and family, and in your car.

It's also smart, she added, to be prepared to spend more time outdoors than expected — even overnight — by packing extra clothing and food.

Online

- For more information visit adventuresmart.ca.

KYLE FARQUHARSON/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Teacher David Butler leads a march in support of lesbian teacher Lisa Reimer along King Edward Avenue on Thursday.

Support gathers for lesbian music teacher

MARCH Roughly 40 people turned up at a march yesterday near Little Flower Academy (LFA) in Vancouver to show solidarity with lesbian music teacher Lisa Reimer.

The marchers said they believe that Reimer is the victim of homophobia and discrimination.

"Homophobia should not be tolerated under any circumstances," said teacher David Butler, the event organizer. "And when a school fires a teacher (based on sexual orientation and family status), it sends the message that that's OK."

Butler argued that institutions that discriminate based on "immutable characteristics," such as sexual orientation and race, should not be entitled to public funds. LFA receives a substantial portion of its funding from the provincial government.

The school's administrators deny firing Reimer. They say she is on parental leave, and will continue to be paid until the end of her contract. KYLE FARQUHARSON/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Heart health tops in B.C., says new report

ACTIVITY British Columbia has the lowest heart attack rate per capita in Canada and leads the country in several other health indicators, according to a national report released Thursday.

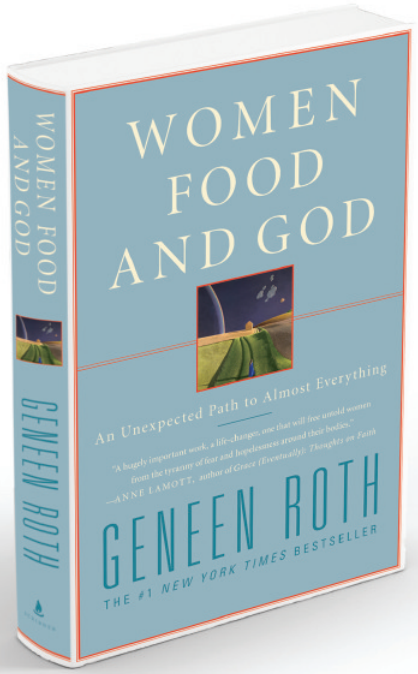
Health Indicators 2010, by the Canadian Institute for Health Information, found that if all provinces had the same heart attack rate as B.C., there would be a potential decline of 22 per cent in the national rate. "If we exercise ... eat reasonably well and don't smoke, we can reduce our risk factors for many common chronic diseases by up to 80 per cent," said Health Services Minister Kevin Falcon.

"I want B.C. to continue to set the bar high for the rest of the country."

B.C. also had the lowest percentage of smoking and heavy drinking, and the highest percentage of physical activity.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

What are you hungry for?



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B.C. to test if schools can unify systems

Money-saving end goal

EDUCATION The B.C. government is looking to consolidate school board payroll and administrative systems in order to save money.

Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid has announced a pilot project in four school districts — Vancouver, North Vancouver, Surrey and Kamloops Thompson — to examine current systems to see if they can be combined into one across B.C.

She says B.C.'s 60 school districts currently spend about $70 million a year on payroll and administrative systems each year, but they all use different software, practices and personnel.

MacDiarmid says her goal is to have standardized administration and payroll processing systems for all districts, which she says would save money that could be funnelled back into classrooms.

She says other areas of government that have consolidated services have found savings of at least 10 to 15 per cent, and cutting just $1 million in costs would pay for 22 teaching assistants. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Pit bulls rescued in May ready for new homes

PETNERSHIP PROJECT Twenty-three pit bulls rescued from a Surrey home have recovered and are in need of adoption.

The dogs were found May 1 suffering from open wounds, parasites and respiratory diseases.

The HugABull Advocacy and Rescue Society will have a booth at the Petnership Project Tradeshow and Lecture Series on June 19 and 20 at the Hellenic Community Centre in Vancouver for those interested in getting the adoption process started.

SIMON WILSON/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

B.C. SPCA

- In 2008 the B.C. SPCA removed 1,297 animals from dangerous and neglectful situations.

Former Surrey area planner being investigated by RCMP

ALLEGATIONS A former City of Surrey area planner is the target of an RCMP investigation into allegations of defrauding the city, Surrey Mounties confirmed Thursday, but wouldn't comment further.

According to the Surrey Leader, the city employee was terminated with cause, but Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts would not say what that cause was.

In an interview with the newspaper, Watts said the amount defrauded was "significant" and said several developers were being interviewed by the RCMP. **METRO VANCOUVER**

Drug-maker denied appeal

SUPREME COURT The maker of a hormone replacement drug that's been blamed for higher rates of breast cancer has lost its bid to block a B.C. class-action lawsuit.

The Supreme Court of Canada on Thursday declined to hear an appeal from Wyeth-Ayerst International, which makes the drugs Premarin and Premplus.

Hundreds of B.C. women claim they got breast cancer after taking the medication to ease symptoms of menopause, such as hot flashes and night sweats. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

News in brief

MURDER CHARGE A 31-year-old Nanaimo-area man has been charged with first degree murder in connection with a deadly gun battle. Simon Phillip Dockerill was remanded in custody during a bail hearing held at his bedside at the hospital where he is being treated for a leg wound suffered during the shooting. He's accused of killing a 47-year-old man. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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New poll shows Tories pulling away from Liberals

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservatives are opening a sizable gap over the Liberals, a new poll suggests. The Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey gives the Conservatives a nine-point lead nationally, with the support of 36 per cent of decided respondents, compared with 27 per cent for the Liberals. The NDP was at 16 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Latimer calls the tune

Robert Latimer, the Saskatchewan farmer convicted of killing his disabled daughter, has inspired a song by the legendary Ozzy Osbourne, left. Called Latimer's Mercy, it's included on the rocker's upcoming Scream CD. Latimer is serving a life sentence for second-degree murder. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oh, Canada ... the iPad takes a bow

Rivals gird to fight Apple as unique tablet comes north

Not sure whether you need or can afford one of Apple's iPad tablet computers? Well, you may not have to wait long for cheaper alternatives to hit the market.

About two months after its U.S. release, the iPad was finally to come to Canada on Friday with a range of models priced between $549 and $879.

It's an undeniably impressive tech toy and owns the tablet market. For now.

"I have a feeling (the tablet market) is probably going to evolve very quickly," said Emily Taylor, an analyst with IDC Canada.

"I anticipate the offerings will be coming out pretty fast and furious for the remainder of 2010 and into 2011."

The iPad reviews have been almost unanimously positive.

Michael Gartenberg, a partner with the research firm Altimeter Group, said it's fair to assume some rivals will at least give Apple a run for its money.

"We're going to see a lot of competition in this space," said Gartenberg, who predicted other tablets will be announced in the next month or two.

Although Apple CEO Steve Jobs has suggested the iPad will eliminate the need for laptops, many users have said it's not quite a replacement for a real computer.

The iPad's web browser doesn't handle video, lacks a webcam and doesn't allow multitasking.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dell jumps in

- Dell says it's launching a smartphone-tablet hybrid called the Streak in the U.S. sometime in the summer.
- It has a smaller screen — 12.7 centimetres versus the iPad's 24.6 centimetre screen.
- It does a few things the iPad doesn't: it makes and receives phone calls, has a video camera, and its web browser can load Flash.

Twenty-somethings hit by recession learn about personal finance the hard way

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MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The iPad is shown after it was unveiled at the Moscone Center in San Francisco. Consumers who aren't quite sure whether they need or can afford one of Apple's iPad tablet computers may not have to wait long for cheaper alternatives to hit the market.

Visas to stay for now: Kenney

TRAVEL It will be year or more before Canada can lift its controversial visa requirement for Mexican visitors, says Immigration Minister Jason Kenney.

Kenney echoed visiting Mexican President Felipe Calderon in saying he regrets the visa decision, but he stressed it will remain in place until Canada's refugee system is fixed.

Calderon addressed the visa issue during a speech to Parliament on Thursday, confronting a source of friction between the two countries.

Both sides took pains to play down the rift:

- Kenney and Prime Minister Stephen Harper blamed the troubled refugee system.
- Calderon admitted some people took advantage of Canada.

Calderon said he hopes plans to change Canadian laws will help. "We sincerely hope the solution this parliament is studying… will also serve as a bridge that will enable us to renew our exchanges," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Group makes a splash with a water warning

CLIMATE The federal government is in the dark about Canada's water supply, a new report warns.

And the lack of information puts Canadians' health and the economy at risk, says top bureaucrats.

They warn in a report that the knowledge gap widens as climate change and development strain the water supply.

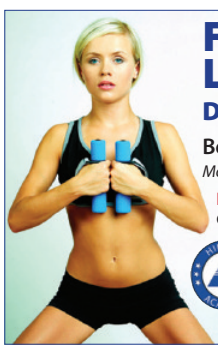
"As Canadian freshwater comes under increasing stress, decisions about this natural resource will need to be made with a more complete understanding of its availability and how that is expected to change over time," the report says.

The government has formed a working group of high-ranking civil servants to study water issues.

The report says there appears to be insufficient understanding of:

- How much water is presently available.
- Where available water is located.
- How severe Canada's regional water availability issues are.
- Current and forecasted demands for water usage.
- The anticipated impacts of climate change on future water supplies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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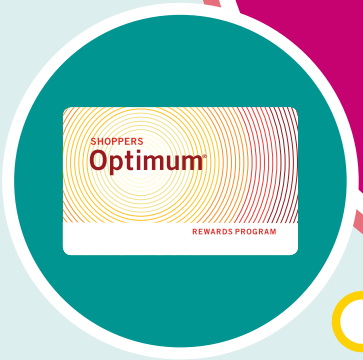

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Police pose as 12-year-olds in Internet porn probe

Police say five people were arrested in Durham Region near Toronto in an investigation into the luring of children and exchanging child pornography over the Internet. Officers used a variety of investigative techniques, including posing as 12- to 14-year-old girls in chat rooms on the Internet. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sound cannons ready for summit

PROTEST The addition of sound cannons to the arsenal of security forces managing G20 protests comes as no surprise to groups planning to demonstrate in Toronto at next month's summit.

They say it's just one more signal amid an unprecedented security operation that dissenting voices are being muzzled.

"We were expecting the use of sound cannons, sound grenades, Tasers, tear gas — they've been used in the past against Canadian protesters,'' said Sharmeen Khan, spokesperson for the Toronto Community Mobilization Network.

"We definitely are concerned that this will scare people away."

The sound cannons are capable of emitting ear-piercing and hearing-damaging alerts that can be heard up to 1.5 kilometres away. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mountie tells of Haiti's sex slaves

GETTY IMAGES

As a Mountie returned to Canada with stories of child sex slaves, turbulence continued in Haiti. Here, protesters in Port-au-Prince Thursday demand the resignation of President René Préval.

Smugglers preying on kids orphaned by earthquake

Smugglers have been spiriting Haitian quake orphans out of the country to become sex slaves in the Dominican Republic, authorities say.

A Mountie just back from Haiti says authorities have uncovered "safe houses," where predators hide children before whisking them over the border.

> **"People put children into these homes and then wait till darkness to get them across the border."**
> Sgt. Lana Prosper

The perpetrators pose as aid workers or even work for legitimate charities, specifically to gain access to children, said RCMP Sgt. Lana Prosper.

Investigators suspect some of those preying on desperate children in Haiti also peddled child-sex videos found online from Sri Lanka, Thailand and other countries.

It's just a matter of time before videos of young Haitian quake victims surface, said Prosper, home from a month in Haiti.

"Since we've been there and since we've been back, there have been groups of children found at the border in so-called safe houses," she said.

"People put children into these homes and then wait till darkness to get them across the border. It's happening."

Prosper says these people are "pure evil." They inflict pain and humiliation, damaging innocent minds and young bodies.

Prosper's team worked in Port-au-Prince, helping police protect children after the Jan. 12 earthquake, which killed 230,000 people. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Oklahoma governor vetoes abortion limitation bill
Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry has vetoed an abortion bill that would limit coverage by private insurers.
The bill includes exceptions for cases of rape, incest or to prevent the death of the mother. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Student not entitled to private room

A German court says that a Berlin high school doesn't have to provide a 16-year-old Muslim student with a private room to pray in during school hours. The decision Thursday by a Berlin administrative court overturned a lower court's ruling last year that granting a private room was necessary to guarantee the student's right to freedom of religion. But the higher court said that one pupil's rights could not be put before the good of the group as a whole. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama: 'I take responsibility'

President answers to criticism of response to worst oil spill in U.S. history

Criticism mounting, U.S. President Barack Obama vigorously defended his administration's response to the worst oil spill in the nation's history as he prepared for his second inspection tour of the battered Gulf Coast. While standing up for the effort so far, he frankly acknowledged he could have done better.

"I take responsibility. It is my job to make sure that everything is done to shut this down," Obama declared in a lengthy news conference at the White House on Thursday.

As he spoke, well owner BP struggled anew to plug the blown well that exploded five weeks ago, killing 11 workers and sending millions of gallons of polluting oil gushing out.

Obama's words marked a clear shift of emphasis for an administration that previously had said it was generally "in charge" but there were limits to what it could do — and that oil giant BP was responsible for stopping the flow and cleaning up the disastrous damage.

He also said he regretted not pushing BP sooner to release underwater video footage of the leak and not realizing that oil companies did not have "their act together when it came to worst case scenarios."

Though he said the government was giving the orders in the aftermath, he acknowledged that BP hasn't always done what officials have asked, for instance ignoring directions to fully explore less-toxic alternatives to the chemical dispersant being used now on the oil.

Asked about comparisons to the Bush administration's much-criticized handling of the hurricane Katrina aftermath, he said that was for others to judge but he insisted his administration has been active from the start.

"This has been our highest priority" since the rig exploded, he said, making the point repeatedly.

"My job right now is just to make sure everybody in the Gulf understands: This is what I wake up to in the morning, and this is what I go to bed at night thinking about. The spill."

Obama marked out half a dozen areas where he and his administration could have done better. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Offshore drilling restrictions

- Obama announced new steps to restrict drilling, including continuing a moratorium on drilling permits for six months, suspending planned exploratory drilling off the coasts of Alaska and Virginia, and ordering a halt to 33 exploratory deep-water rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Louisiana's Gov. Bobby Jindal points to oil on a beach where workers are building barriers to keep it from entering wetlands near Grand Isle, La., Thursday.

BP resumes 'top kill' attempt to stem oil after delay

GULF OF MEXICO As BP laboured for a second day Thursday to choke off the leak at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, dire new government estimates showed the disaster has easily eclipsed the Exxon Valdez as the biggest oil spill in U.S. history.

The company announced late in the day that it had suspended shooting heavy drilling mud into the blown-out well 5,000 feet underwater around midnight Wednesday so it could assess how the effort was working and bring in more materials.

Thursday evening, BP PLC said it had resumed the pumping procedure known as a top kill. Officials said it could be late Friday or the weekend before the company knows if it has cut off the oil that has been flowing for five weeks.

BP insisted the top kill was progressing as planned, though the company acknowledged drilling mud was escaping from the broken pipe along with the leaking crude.

"The fact that we had a bunch of mud going up the riser isn't ideal but it's not necessarily indicative of a problem," said spokesman Tom Mueller.

Early Thursday, officials said the process was going well, but later in the day they announced pumping had been suspended 16 hours earlier. BP did not characterize the suspension as a setback, and Eric Smith, associate director of the Tulane Energy Institute, said the move did not indicate the top kill had failed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The fact we had a bunch of mud going up the riser isn't ideal but it's not necessarily indicative of a problem."
BP spokesman Tom Mueller

Bush doctrine not totally dead

WASHINGTON U.S. President Barack Obama's new national security strategy says armed conflict should be a last resort but doesn't repudiate the Bush administration's doctrine of preemptive war or its call for the U.S. to go it alone in defending against foreign threats. The overarching goal of Obama's National Security Strategy, intended to guide U.S. military and diplomatic policy for years, is to eliminate the need for the U.S. to strike first or take unilateral action. In his first formal declaration of his national security strategy, Obama breaks with some of his predecessors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Train derailed by blast in India

RAILWAY A doctor says at least 30 people died when an overnight passenger train was derailed by suspected sabotage and then hit by another train in eastern India. Government officials say they suspect Maoist rebels sabotaged the train. An overnight passenger train was derailed by an explosion then hit by another train early Friday as it travelled through a rebel stronghold of eastern India, a railway official said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Anti-whaling activist pleads guilty to trespassing

An anti-whaling activist who boarded a Japanese whaling ship as part of a protest in February pleaded guilty Thursday to charges including trespassing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tight pants banned

Indonesian district cracks down on Muslim women's dress

Authorities in a devoutly Islamic district of Indonesia's Aceh province have distributed 20,000 long skirts and prohibited shops from selling tight dresses as a regulation banning Muslim women from wearing revealing clothing took effect Thursday.

HERU HANDA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sharia police officers stop a woman wearing pants at a check point in Pasi Jambu, Indonesia, Thursday.

The long skirts are to be given to Muslim women caught violating the dress code during a two-month campaign to enforce the regulation, said Ramli Mansur, head of West Aceh district.

Islamic police will determine whether a woman's clothing violates the dress code, he said.

During raids Thursday, Islamic police caught 18 women travelling on motorbikes who were wearing traditional headscarves but were also dressed in jeans. Each woman was given a long skirt and her pants were confiscated. They were released from police custody after giving their identities and receiving advice from Islamic preachers.

"I am not wearing sexy outfits, but they caught me like a terrorist only because of my jeans," said Imma, a 40-year-old housewife who uses only one name. She argued that wearing jeans is more comfortable when she travels by motorbike.

Motorbikes are commonly used by both men and women in Indonesia.

"The rule applies only to Muslim residents in West Aceh," Mansur told The Associated Press. "We don't enforce it for non-Muslims, but are asking them to respect us."

He said any shopkeepers caught violating restrictions on selling short skirts and jeans would face a revocation of their business licenses.

No merchants have been seen displaying jeans or tight clothing in stores in West Aceh district in recent weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tobacco companies targeting young women, report claims

SMOKING With half of all men in some developing countries already hooked on cigarettes, the tobacco industry is now courting lucrative new customers — young women, a report said Thursday.

About 80 per cent of the world's estimated one billion smokers are men, but more women are picking up the habit in some countries as flavoured products and glossy feminine packaging cater to them. Nationwide surveys in Bangladesh, Thailand and Uruguay found that females aged 15 to 24 were more aware of tobacco marketing than older women, suggesting that advertising is directed at them.

The data were the first batch to be analyzed from the Global Adult Tobacco Survey, a large sampling of 14 developing countries that hopes to provide a clearer picture of how tobacco is used and promoted. It was the first standardized comparison of countries on tobacco. The results published Thursday in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, a publication of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, focus on gender differences regarding use and attitudes toward tobacco.

"Tobacco companies target women and girls with aggressive and seductive advertising that exploits ideas of independence, emancipation, sex appeal, slimness, glamour and beauty," Johanna Birckmayer, director of international research at the U.S.-based Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, said in an email. They are "successfully reaching the young consumers they hope to addict," said Birckmayer, who was not involved in the research. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHO: Women smokers to double

- The World Health Organization has estimated that the rate of female smokers worldwide will double by 2025, from about nine per cent in 2007. The current male smoking rate of about 40 per cent has peaked and is slowly starting to decline. Increases among female smokers have been documented in a number of countries, including India, Singapore, the Ukraine and Russia, said Timothy O'Leary, a WHO spokesman.

Hunt for Jamaican drug lord leaves 73 dead

KINGSTON Jamaican police say at least 73 people have died as security forces hunt for a reputed drug lord wanted by the United States.

Deputy police chief Glenmore Hinds says all the deaths have occurred as police raided the Tivoli Gardens stronghold of Christopher Coke. Officials previously said that 44 civilians had died.

Information Minister Daryl Vaz said Thursday that officials are trying to identify the victims and that the government will launch independent investigations into all police actions.

Vas has said it is unclear whether Coke is still in Jamaica.

The U.S. is seeking his extradition and called him one of the world's most dangerous drug traffickers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Congolese rebels flouting sanctions: UN
Rebel groups in eastern Congo are illegally imposing taxes on trucks and pedestrians and receiving local, regional and international support in violation of UN sanctions, UN experts said Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Congress votes to end 'don't ask, don't tell'

Policy keeps gays from serving openly in military

The House of Representatives on Thursday delivered a victory to President Barack Obama and gay rights groups by approving a proposal to repeal the law that allows gays to serve in the military only if they don't disclose their sexual orientation.

The 234-194 vote to overturn the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy reflected a view among many in Congress that America was ready for a military in which gays and straights can stand side by side in the trenches.

"I know that our military draws its strength on the integrity of our unified force, and current law challenges this integrity by creating two realities within the ranks," Democratic Rep. Susan Davis.

Republicans, who voted overwhelmingly against it, cited statements by some military leaders that they need more time to study how the change could affect the lives and readiness of service members.

The House vote came just hours after the Senate Armed Services Committee took the same course and voted 16-12 in favour of repealing the 1993 law. In both cases the measure was offered as an amendment to a defence spending bill.

"This is the beginning of the end of a shameful ban on open service by lesbian and gay troops."
Joe Solmonese, Human Rights Campaign

Obama and leading Democrats, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi had actively supported the repeal so that gays could serve in the military without fear of being exposed and discharged.

"This is the beginning of the end of a shameful ban on open service by lesbian and gay troops that has weakened our national security," Joe Solmonese, president of Human Rights Campaign, a leading gay rights organization, said after the Senate panel's vote.

During an all-day House debate on the bill approving more than $700 billion in spending for defence programs, Republicans repeated statements by military service chiefs that Congress should not act before the Pentagon completes a study on the impact of a repeal.

Congress going first "is the equivalent to turning to our men and women in uniform and their families and saying, 'Your opinion, your view, do not count,'" said Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, the top Republican on the House Armed Services Committee.

Democratic supporters stressed that the amendment was written so that the repeal wouldn't go into effect until after the Pentagon publishes in December the results of a survey on how service members and their families view the change, and until the president, the defence secretary and the Joint Chiefs of Staff certify that the repeal won't affect the military's ability to fight.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said that of the 13,500 members of the military who have been discharged under "don't ask, don't tell," over 1,000 filled critical occupations, such as engineers and interpreters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Netherlands **Election day looms**

PETER DEJONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Citizens will go to the polls June 9 in the Netherlands, a country that's been at the forefront of a Europe-wide crackdown on immigration and the debate over a perceived failure of Muslims to integrate over the past decade. But issues like banning burkas and citizenship classes for immigrants have been pushed aside in favour of debates over balancing the budget.

New census question stirs old social debate in India

CASTE SYSTEM Bollywood's biggest star has an answer ready if census workers ask about his caste: "Indian."

"My father never believed in caste, and neither do any of us," Amitabh Bachchan wrote in his obsessively followed blog.

Comments like Bachchan's are common in modern India, which prides itself on how it has transcended some of its most rigid traditions — and those beliefs are being heard more often as the government debates whether the national census should delve into caste.

But Joseph D'Souza doesn't believe such talk for a moment.

The history

The last Indian census that measured castes was in 1931, when colonial Britain still ruled. The founders of modern India — nearly all high caste — were, at least publicly, staunch believers in a caste-blind society.

"There's a lot of lip service to saying 'I'm an Indian first,' and 'I don't believe in caste,'" said D'Souza, a prominent campaigner for dalits, as India's "untouchables" at the very bottom of the caste system are now known.

"When it comes to sharing power, to interaction, to sharing social status, low-caste Indians are very much marginalized," he said, arguing the census could provide firm data about the vast divisions.

India's census, being held in stages over the next year or so, delves into the wealth, living conditions and other personal details of the country's 1.2 billion people.

But still undecided is one question — "What is your caste?" — that has infuriated much of India's elite, energized caste-based political parties and left in doubt millions of government jobs and university slots. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TAINTED MILK A Hong Kong judge on Thursday rejected a lawsuit and claims for compensation by the parents of four Chinese children who were among thousands sickened two years ago by tainted milk powder. Hong Kong's Small Claims Tribunal adjudicator Ada Yim ruled that the case should be handled by mainland Chinese courts since the plaintiffs are from the mainland and their children were poisoned there. The parents had sued the New Zealand farmer-owned dairy co-operative Fonterra in the semiautonomous Chinese territory of Hong Kong, hoping its Western-style courts would be more sympathetic to their case. Lawsuits filed in mainland China were ignored, according to their lawyer. Their children were among 300,000 that were sickened after consuming milk products deliberately contaminated with the industrial chemical melamine to fool tests aimed at measuring protein content. At least six children died. Fonterra was never accused of wrongdoing, but through a Hong Kong subsidiary, it was a minority shareholder in the now-defunct Chinese dairy company Sanlu Group Co., one of the firms at the heart of the milk scandal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Customer may choose between (i) complimentary First Maintenance Service as defined by your new vehicle Owners Manual (Service generally includes an Engine Oil Change, Oil Filter Replacement, Tire Rotation, and Multipoint Inspection) which must be redeemed at the original selling dealership within one (1) year of delivery of the applicable vehicle; or (ii) a credit towards the purchase of any Ford Maintenance Protection Plan at time of delivery in the amount of $55/$60 on Ranger/F-150 (excl Raptor). Offer has no cash value. ▲▲Receive [$1,000] / [$1,500] / [$2,000] / [$2,500] / [$3,000] / [$4,000] / [$4,500] / [$5,000] / [$6,000] / [$7,000] in price adjustments when you cash purchase, purchase finance or lease a new 2010 Ford [E-Series Club Wag. & VAN] / [Transit Connect] / [Explorer 4 door/Focus S] / [Ranger Regular Cab XL/FX4] / [Fusion Hybrid/Escape Hybrid/Fusion S/Taurus SE/Edge SE/Flex SE] / [Escape I4 Manual] / [Ranger Super Cab XL/Mustang 2DR Coupe V6 Value Leader] / [Explorer Sport Trac/Mustang (Excluding GT500 and Value leader)] / [F-150 Regular Cab/Ranger Super Cab excluding XL)] / [F-150 Super Cab & Super Crew Cab] models. ‡‡Lease a new 2010 Ford F-150 SuperCab XLT 4x4 for $399 per month with 8.99% LAPR for up to 48 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Additional payments required: down payment of $4,600 or equivalent trade-in. Total lease obligation is $23,752.00, optional buyout is $12,524. 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To be eligible for the Rebate(s), Ford must receive the following from customer, within 30 days of delivery of new Ford/Lincoln: (1) signed Ford Recycle Your Ride Claim Form; and (2) signed original ownership transferring customer vehicle to either "Retire Your Ride" or "Car Heaven" or "Authorized Recycler Drop-Off Receipt". The Rebate will be paid directly to customer in the form of a cheque. The Rebates are available to residents of Canada only and payable in Canadian dollars. Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period to qualify for a Rebate. The Rebates can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. The Rebates are raincheckable. The Rebates are not combinable with the previous Ford Recycle Your Ride incentives in effect from September 3, 2009 to March 1, 2010. The Rebates are not available on any vehicle receiving CPA, GPC, or Daily Rental Rebates and the Commercial Fleet Rebate Program (CFP). The Government of Canada's "Retire Your Ride Program" and Summerhill Impact's "Car Heaven" Program are not available to residents of Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, or Nunavut; and, therefore, Ford Recycle Your Ride Rebates are also not available to residents of Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, or Nunavut. Other provincially specific rewards may be available in association with the Government of Canada's "Retire Your Ride" Program or SummerHill Impact's "Car Heaven" Program. For more information visit retireyourride.ca or carheaven.ca. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. © 2010 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. ▼▼Offer valid from May 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadian Costco members in good standing, active as of April 30, 2010. Use this $1,000 Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of a new 2010 Ford Fusion (including Hybrid), Taurus, Mustang (excluding Shelby GT500), Edge, Escape (including Hybrid), Explorer, Explorer Sport Trac, Expedition, Flex, F-150 (excluding Raptor), Super Duty (including Chassis Cab), E-Series, Transit Connect, Lincoln MKZ, Lincoln MKS, Lincoln MKX, Lincoln MKT or Lincoln Navigator (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). This offer is raincheckable. The new vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford Motor Company of Canada dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, and is subject to vehicle availability and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. This offer is transferable to immediate family members living within the same household as an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Costco Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. On applicable vehicles, this offer can also be combined with the Commercial Connection Program incentives, RCL Program, and for small fleets with an eligible FIN, this offer can also be used in conjunction with the Small Business Incentive Program (SBIP). This offer is not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFP). Customer may use the $1,000 as a down payment or choose to receive a rebate cheque from Ford Motor Company of Canada, but not both. Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000 offer is deducted. The offer is payable in Canadian dollars and is available to residents of Canada only. Dealer may sell or lease for less. ***Most 2010 Ford vehicles, excluding 2010 Model LCF, F-650 and F-750, come with a 5 year/100,000 km (whichever occurs first) Powertrain Warranty and full Roadside Assistance benefits together with a 5 year/100,000 km (whichever occurs first) Safety Restraint Warranty. In addition, on all 2010 Model F-Super Duty vehicles equipped with the diesel engine, the Powertrain Warranty is extended to 5 year/160,000 km (whichever occurs first), which equals the diesel engine warranty. Some conditions and limitations apply. †††See your Ford of Canada Dealer or contact SIRIUS at 1-888-539-7474 for more information. 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Comment

Living at the trough of taxpayers

UrbanCompass

If you're a resident of the South Surrey/White Rock/Cloverdale federal electoral district, congratulations!

Your member of Parliament, Conservative Russ Hiebert, is the highest spending MP in Canada, not counting Manitoba's Steven Fletcher, who is a quadriplegic and can make a case for the extra expense money.

Hiebert declared $637,093 in expenses in 2008-09. Quite a distinction, considering the competition. Only senators do less for more.

Wondering what's so special about Hiebert, garden variety backbencher? Keep guessing, because an all-party committee has rejected auditor general Sheila Fraser's request to conduct an audit of the House of Commons and MPs' expenses.

Ironically, six of the top seven hogs at the national trough in B.C. are Conservatives, who like to come across as all fiscally responsible when they're just like any other politician ever minted — really good at spending other peoples' money.

As you can imagine, Hiebert has tried to defend himself. Most of that cash, he says, goes to travel expenses, as he likes to fly the wife and kids to Ottawa, because like any good Tory, he's got family values.

That's great, but we didn't elect Mrs. Hiebert and the two little Hieberts. If Russ wants to snuggle into the bosom of his family, he should do it at his expense, not ours. Just like everyone else.

This sense of entitlement has become quite epidemic in Ottawa. Of course, the poster girl for MP arrogance is former Tory cabinet minister Helena Guergis, who nearly tried to hijack an airplane to remove herself from the "hellhole" that is Prince Edward Island after working her "ass off for you people."

But she's hardly the only one. I've been awake at night trying to figure out how Blochead MP Maria Mourani managed to run up a $34,205 phone bill between her Ottawa and Montreal office during the same fiscal year. Official separatist business, no doubt.

Meanwhile, MLAs across various provinces are proving just as reluctant to disclose the details of their spending. In Alberta, the so-called Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act actually forbids the release of MLA expenses.

Here in B.C., both government and opposition members express a willingness to discuss greater transparency — in a management committee that meets at an undisclosed time in the strictest confidence!

As government thrusts its grubby paw ever deeper into our pockets, MLAs and MPs should be accountable for every glass of Shiraz they guzzle on our behalf.

These people need to learn there's no such thing as a free lunch, especially when the taxpayer is picking up the tab.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Views

Teach children about race early: Study

InStep

CNN recently conducted a pilot study to determine young children's attitude toward race, which raised many eyebrows. The surprising, yet critical findings pointed to a need for parents everywhere to teach children about values and self-esteem much earlier than expected.

To conduct the pilot study, CNN hired consultant Margaret Beale Spencer — a renowned child psychologist and researcher from the University of Chicago. The pictures of caricature dolls were juxtaposed in front of each child. The dolls were identical except for one feature: The colour of their skin, which ranged from very light to very dark.

More than 130 children from eight schools were asked questions about who the smart child was and who the mean child was. The study showed an overwhelming bias in favour of the white dolls among the white children in the study. Surprisingly, the same bias — though not nearly as strong — showed up in the black children. In other words, the darkest doll was most often identified as the "mean" and "dumb" child, while the lightest doll was identified as the nicest child and smartest one.

The CNN study drew thousands of comments afterwards, including from a broad spectrum of professionals. The consensus was that it is necessary to teach children about race issues during their toddler years, not leave them to come to their own conclusions, which evidently they do, based on whatever experiences they encounter.

The implications of the CNN race study are critical if we want our children to grow up with healthy self-esteem, regardless of colour. This can expand to any endowment like size and height. Given the implications of the CNN study, parental teaching overall is paramount from an early age.

Christine Williams is the producer and host of the live current affairs daily talk show On the Line at CTS TV in Burlington, Ont.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Apple finally beats Microsoft
Apple Inc.'s market capitalization ($222.4 billion US) has surpassed that of rival Microsoft Corp. ($220.6 billion US), making Apple the most valuable technology firm in the world and the second-largest publicly traded U.S. company. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Youth lead way in online privacy

Study points to discretion on social media

What's that? A young college grad lecturing her elders about online privacy?

It might go against conventional wisdom, but a new report from the Pew Internet & American Life Project is adding fuel to the argument that young people are fast becoming the gurus of online reputation management, especially when it comes to social networking sites.

Among other things, the study found that they are most likely to limit personal information online — and the least likely to trust free online services ranging from Facebook to LinkedIn and MySpace.

The Pew study and a mounting body of new research is showing that the very generation accused of sharing too much information online is actually leading the pack in online privacy.

The Pew study found, for instance, that social networkers ages 18 to 29 were the most likely to change the privacy settings on their profiles to limit what they share with others online.

The percentage who did so was 71 per cent, compared with just 55 per cent of the 50- to 64-year-old bracket. Meanwhile, about two-thirds of all social networkers who were surveyed said they've tightened security settings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The survey also found...

- About half of those 18 to 29 have deleted comments that others have made on their profile, compared with just 29 per cent of those 30 to 49 and 26 per cent of 50- to 64-year-olds. The numbers were similar when it came to social networkers who removed their names from photos that were tagged to identify them.
- When asked how much they can trust social networking sites, 28 per cent of the youngest adults surveyed said "never." A fifth in the 30-49 bracket said that and just 14 per cent of those ages 50 to 64 agreed.

Iraq **Monkey business going unchecked**

MAYA ALLERUZZO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A boy looks at a monkey that sells for $700 US at a pet shop in Baghdad. The sale of wildlife and trafficking of endangered species has been largely ignored by Iraq's government as it has struggled to make the country safer. Conservation groups warn that as people feel safer about shopping, the wildlife trade will continue to expand.

China **Feeling bullish**

EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The new charging bull statue, a version of the one near Wall Street in New York City, sits on the Bund in Shanghai.

Business in brief

STRIKE Pilots at Jazz Air have voted 99 per cent in favour of a legal strike if necessary to reach a new contract. No strike deadline has been set, but a mandatory cooling-off period is set to expire in mid-June. Union head Brian Shury says the pilots have been subject to a bankruptcy-era contract since 2004 and that Jazz is negotiating as if it were still in bankruptcy. The company says it has reached deals with some of its unions, but is still negotiating with several others, including the pilots.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds crack down on online insurance sales

INSURANCE Finance Minister Jim Flaherty says federally-regulated Canadian banks and trust companies will be banned from using their websites to promote insurance that can't be sold through their regular branch offices. Flaherty says the so-called non-authorized insurance products will include life, property and casualty insurance.

Banks are already prohibited from advertising the non-authorized insurance products in their regular branch offices — although they are allowed to set up separate locations to sell that type of insurance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tablet fever: Even the One Laptop Per Child non-profit is ditching laptops for tablet

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GM sued for using image of Einstein

RIGHTS An Israeli university that holds rights to Albert Einstein's image is asking General Motors Co. to pay for putting the physics pioneer in a magazine ad.

The Detroit automaker grafted the Nobel Prize-winning German scientist's head onto the body of a buff, shirtless man in a Nov. 30 ad in People magazine. Hebrew University of Jerusalem filed suit against GM earlier this month in federal court in central California.

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Favre's decision to have surgery seen as good sign by Vikings

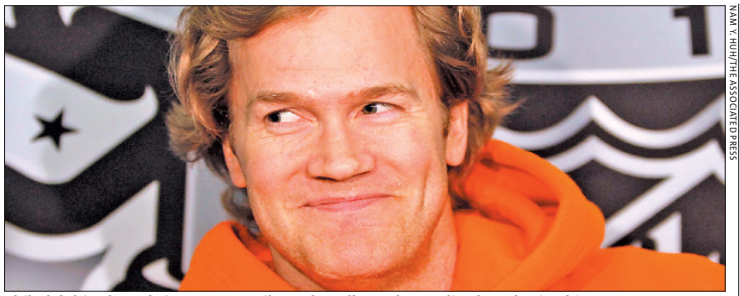
Brett Favre's recent decision to have surgery on his left ankle gave the Minnesota Vikings more reason to believe he'll be their quarterback again this season. He hasn't officially told the team he'll be back, but the vibe around the Vikings is strongly suggesting he will return. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

World Cup sex OK: Team doc

Soccer and sex are just fine for the World Cup. That's the word from Argentina's team doctor, who says players can have sex with their regular partners during the month-long tournament in South Africa. Dr. Donato Vallani said sex was a part of life. "The players can have sex with their wives and girlfriends during the World Cup," he said on Radio Del Plata. "Players are not Martians." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA



NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philadelphia Flyer Chris Pronger smiles as he talks to the media Thursday in Chicago.

Pronger, Hossa no strangers to playing in Stanley Cup finals

NHL Chris Pronger was just what the Philadelphia Flyers needed. Fearless and strong on the defensive end, he was a game-changer the Flyers hoped would make them a championship contender. They gave up two first round picks in a trade to get him.

The Chicago Blackhawks liked Marian Hossa when they went free agent shopping in the offseason. A strong skater and scoring threat who could also play defence, they landed him with a big 12-year contract, figuring he would be a veteran influence on a young team with title hopes.

Some players spend their entire career chasing the Stanley Cup without ever hoisting it.

Pronger and Hossa have found their way back to the final again — Pronger for the third time in five years with his third different team. He was on a winner with the Anaheim Ducks in 2007 after losing as a member of the Edmonton Oilers the previous year.

"All you hear about is guys talking about it's the toughest trophy in pro sports to win. There's no question it is," Pronger said Thursday after the Flyers arrived in Chicago dressed in matching orange hooded sweat shirts.

Hossa's trek is even more rare. He'll be playing in his third straight championship round with a different team. He's lost his last two, first with the Penguins in 2008 and then last year as a member of the Red Wings when they fell to Pittsburgh and Sidney Crosby.

"Definitely want to touch the trophy," Hossa said. "What you learn is that this is a great opportunity. Somebody will say you know it comes once in a lifetime and it comes three times for me. It didn't work out two times and hopefully the third time will be the one. Just keep hoping and do the best you can."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lakers win a wild one

(Lakers lead series 3-2)

Suns 101 Lakers 103

Ron Artest became a part of the Los Angeles Lakers' playoff lore with a bank shot to beat the Phoenix Suns.

Artest rambled into the lane and beat the buzzer with a wild shot after rebounding Kobe Bryant's miss, and the Lakers edged the Suns 103-101 on Thursday night to take a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference finals.

Bryant had 30 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists for the Lakers, but Artest was the improbable hero of Game 5 with just his second basket of the night in an otherwise awful performance.

Jason Richardson banked in a straightaway three-pointer with 3.5 seconds left to tie it for the Suns, who rallied from an 18-point deficit in the second half.

Bryant missed a difficult shot from the corner, but Artest collected the rebound and raised to his tiptoes to throw up a hideous shot that somehow went in. Artest, who missed two open jumpers just a few seconds earlier, grabbed Bryant in a joyous bear hug while the Staples Center crowd went nuts.

Game 6 is Saturday night in Phoenix, where the Lakers can clinch the chance to play for their 16th championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant reacts after Pau Gasol dunked during the second half of Game 5 of the Western Conference finals against the Phoenix Suns on Thursday in Los Angeles.

If refs let them, Flyers will rough up Hawks: Cherry

NHL The rough-and-tumble Philadelphia Flyers will make life miserable for the speedy, skilled and favoured Chicago Blackhawks in the Stanley Cup final — provided the referees let them.

That's Don Cherry's take on the matchup for NHL supremacy, which begins Saturday in the Windy City featuring two teams that play contrasting styles of hockey.

The Flyers, led by tenacious captain Mike Richards, are a physically imposing group that often straddles the line between clean and dirty in using its size to contain, wear down and punish opponents.

The Blackhawks, on the other hand, are led by the dynamic duo of Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane and use their off-the-charts quickness and talent to skate around their rivals and pick them apart.

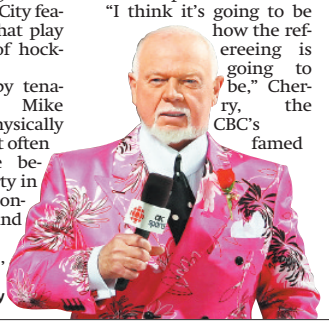
Whether brawn can negate finesse in the best-of-seven series may depend on the stripes.

"I think it's going to be how the refereeing is going to be," Cherry, the CBC's famed Hockey Night in Canada commentator, said during a conference call Thursday.

"If they start calling penalties like they did against San Jose (during the Western Conference final versus Chicago), it's really going to be tough on Philadelphia, I'll tell you that. I'm not saying letting it go, but if they let them play hockey, it's in Philadelphia's favour because let's face it, they are a lot tougher."

That toughness is why Cherry firmly believes the final will go a lot longer than many oddsmakers predict it will. The Blackhawks were impressive in series wins against Nashville, Vancouver and San Jose en route to the final, but none are as physical as the Flyers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Don Cherry

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS

Kansas City 4 Boston 3
Minnesota 8 N.Y. Yankees 2
Oakland 7 Baltimore 5
Tampa Bay 5 Chicago White Sox 1

THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS

Atlanta 8 Florida 3
Chicago Cubs 1 L.A. Dodgers 0
Cincinnati 8 Pittsburgh 2
Colorado 8 Arizona 2
Milwaukee 4 Houston 3 (10 ings)
N.Y. Mets 3 Philadelphia 0
San Francisco 5 Washington 4
St. Louis 8 San Diego 3

NBA PLAYOFFS

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Lakers 103 Phoenix 101 (L.A. Lakers lead 3-2)

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Orlando at Boston, 5:30 p.m.

NHL PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY'S GAME

Philadelphia at Chicago, 5 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME

Philadelphia at Chicago, 5 p.m.

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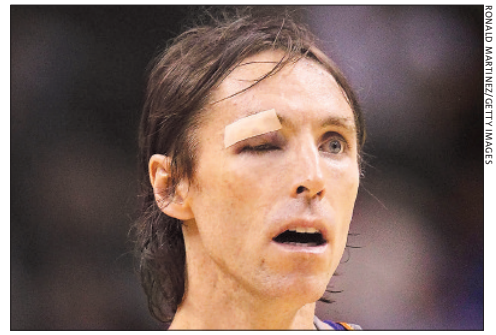
Jefferson to serve 2 years probation

Minnesota Timberwolves forward Al Jefferson will serve two years probation as part of his sentence for driving drunk. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steve Nash warrants this nation's attention



RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Phoenix Suns guard Steve Nash after receiving six stitches to his eye against the San Antonio Spurs in Game 4 of the Western Conference semifinals earlier this month.

Professional winter sport is driving to a climax on two fronts. And in the land where hockey is king, a South African-born, Victoria-raised basketball player is stealing the show.

Steve Nash never demands but certainly warrants our attention.

At 36 years of age, blooded and bruised, the two-time NBA MVP is still in the hunt for a coveted prize that's escaped him — a league championship.

His quest for the golden ring is the most compelling odyssey any sports fan could ask for. Nash is a David in the land of Goliaths. He makes plays, delivers passes and scores points at a rate that leaves much bigger men bewildered.

Many would argue if you're not watching Steve Nash when he's on the court for the Phoenix Suns, you're not really watching the game.

Then again, he has always flown under the radar in this country. Nash has won the Lou Marsh Award as Canada's athlete of the year only once —2004. He could have been the slam-dunk choice at least five times, but at selection time it becomes a case of who's out there besides Nash? In other words, we Canadians sometimes take his talent for granted.

He's an athlete of substance — something not to be discounted.

Nash captained the Canadian Olympic team to a thrilling run at the 2000 Sydney Games. He lived in the Athletes Village and was often found playing table tennis with gymnasts and divers. He left the court in tears after Canada fell to France in the quarter-finals.

Off the court, he's a member of the Order of Canada and operates the Steve Nash Foundation, which provides millions of dollars to disadvantaged children around the world. He is outspoken on contentious issues surrounding the environment and poverty.

Nash also loves soccer. He remains a very good player and fully plans to be in South Africa for the World Cup. He may have to delay his departure.

There's something about Steve Nash and you don't want to miss it. This great Canadian athlete's chance at crowning glory may never come again.

Gemini Award winner and author Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. A 20-year CBC Sports veteran, he has covered a variety of professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

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Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movie

Jake the rake Pg 23

The Prince of Persia, Jake Gyllenhaal's first foray into action hero territory, is just good enough to go see.

Movies Pg 22

Forget Sarah Marshall, Hill and Brand shine in the Greek.

Music Pg 26

Wintersleep gets dark with latest album New Inheritors.

Entertainment Pg 28

Galecki reflects on Season 3 of The Big Bang Theory.

At a glance
Prince of Persia: Sands of Time ⊕⊕⊕,
Babies ⊕⊕⊕½

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Greek brings big Brand humour

Brit comic mined his wild past for Aldous Snow role

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Early on during the production of Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Nick Stoller decided he wanted to make another movie starring his then-relative unknown supporting cast.

"During the first table read actually, I thought Jonah (Hill) and Russell (Brand) had amazing chemistry," said the sophomore director.

"I thought of this idea, pitched it and they both thought it was fun. They hadn't done this kind of thing before."

Well, that's not exactly true. After all, Brand played an obnoxious rock star named Aldous Snow in that 2008 comedy. Not coincidentally, he revives none other than Mr. Snow in Get Him to the Greek.

"It didn't make sense for Russell to be playing a new rock star since he just played a rock star in a movie that I directed so we thought we should spin it off," admitted Stoller.

Get Him To The Greek opens next Friday

But Brand's familiarity with the role didn't end there. A tale about a partying musician who is barely escorted from London to Hollywood alongside a meek executive (Hill), Snow walks a perilous, self-destructive path — not unlike the one Katy Perry's fiancé once travelled himself as a heroin-addicted comedian.

Russell Brand, right, and Jonah Hill star in Get Him To The Greek, directed by Nick Stoller (inset).

"I would sit down with him when I was writing the movie and basically interview him and ask him about addiction," said Stoller.

"I'd ask him what would cause him to fall off the wagon, what would he act like when he was an addict, how would he treat his assistant if he wanted something."

If the comedy is any indication, his assistant was treated rather callously. But don't mistake the negligence of Aldous Snow for the Russell Brand of today.

"Personality-wise he's very different," said Stoller. "(He's) a very polite, charming guy who's very effusive and talks a mile a minute and wants everyone to be comfortable … but there's certainly an emotional truth from his past that we kind of brought into the movie."

Alice reaches $1 billion mark

Disney's Tim Burton-directed 3-D adaptation of Alice in Wonderland became the sixth movie to cross the $1 billion at the global office, and the first spring release to ever reach the milestone. IMDB.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Sense of fun saves Prince of Persia

Prince of Persia: **Sands of Time**

Director: Mike Newell
Stars: Jake Gyllenhaal, gemma Arterton
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●●

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

If anyone should see Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time, it's the folks behind the recent Clash of the Titans remake.

In it they'd find a prime example of what their effects-heavy swords-and-sandals adventure was missing: A sense of fun. The film has much in common with Disney's first Pirates of the Caribbean film, though it doesn't quite hit the summer blockbuster mark as well.

Neither film is ashamed of its roots — a video game and an amusement park ride, respectively — and neither is concerned with taking itself too seriously. That's also a good lesson for any Prince of Persia viewer: You're here for a good time, so relax.

In his first foray into action hero territory, Jake Gyllenhaal digs into the role of adopted Persian royal Dastan with gusto, working just as hard at his character's rakish charm as he does at the building-leaping stunt work.

After an enjoyable character-defining prologue and battle sequence, Dastan is accused of planning the king's murder just as he unwittingly comes into possession of a powerful dagger.

On the run, he teams up with initial adversary and eventual love interest Tamina (Gemma Arterton, a survivor of the Clash of the Titans disaster) to protect the mystical artifact and clear his name. While Gyllenhaal and Arterton battle and bicker, they're surrounded by some able supporting performers, with adversaries led by Dastan's uncle (Sir Ben Kingsley) on their trail and an ostrich-racing desert mercenary (Alfred Molina) proving to be a hilarious and helpful ally. The fact that hardly anyone in the cast is actually, you know, Persian, does stick out, though.

There's a lot going on, but the filmmakers do a good job of keeping things clear and keeping the story moving — though anything based on a video game tends to manage forward momentum pretty easily.

The real appeal here are the set pieces, with thrilling rooftop chases, tense battles and crumbling temples. While the film may stumble a bit in the clumsy resolution to its story, it's still exactly what a good summer movie should be: a fun ride.

Jake Gyllenhaal and Gemma Arterton thrive in the action of Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time.

On the web

• For trailers, photos and screen times — and to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies

Kutcher in for the kill in action comedy

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Ashton Kutcher pulled double duty for his latest film, the romantic comedy/action hybrid Killers.

Not only does he star as a loving husband whose past as a CIA assassin comes back to haunt him and his clueless wife (Katherine Heigl), but he also served as producer on the film.

And while he admits they didn't finish on time or on budget, Kutcher is more than pleased with the results. "As a producer, I'm extremely satisfied with the film," he says. "We set out to make a movie that was a $100 million movie for $70 million. We got very, very close. I think we were a couple days over and a couple dollars over, but we kept it pretty well close."

Of course, it wasn't the smoothest of rides. Weather issues plagued the production from the beginning, Kutcher says, starting in the south of France. Nice, it turned out, was not so nice.

"We got to Nice, France, and it was supposed to be sunny and beautiful, but it was freezing and windy, and we were on a yacht that was pitching," he says.

"And then we got to Atlanta and, in the middle of the night, one of our generators got struck by lightning, so it just shut us down. And it rained and rained and rained. We got fogged out one night. Every single time one of those things happened, we just had to completely rejigger what we were doing, in order to make the movie, make it on time and make it on budget."

As much as he's seen living the Hollywood lifestyle — and Twittering about it — Kutcher's producing work keeps his schedule pretty full.

"People are most shocked and most in disbelief that I go to the office every day. I have a job," he says. "When I'm not acting on a movie, I go to work, first thing in the morning. I'm at work at eight o'clock in the morning, and I get home from work at seven o'clock at night."

Of course, the acting still comes first, and playing a trained assassin in Killers meant a decent amount of stunt work. While Kutcher did rely on a stunt man for much of the film — "I'm not as awesome as Tom Cruise," he says. "I don't jump through glass" — he still wanted to be prepared.

"I did some fight training. I learned Krav Maga, Muay Thai and Kali, which is a Filipino knife fighting," he says. "And then I realized that I should have learned how to movie fight because on the first fight scene, I knocked out a stunt guy."

Killers hits theatres next Friday

Katherine Heigl and Ashton Kutcher star in Killers.

Hold the reviews

• You've probably seen the billboards, bus-stop ads and television spots for Killers: They're everywhere, featuring Katherine Heigl and Ashton Kutcher juggling guns and bantering over super-secret identities.

But critics won't see the film before it appears in theatres, part of a growing strategy in Hollywood that relies more on social networking to promote new releases instead of riskier movie reviews.

Lionsgate, which is releasing the action comedy, has planned what's known as a "courtesy screening" for critics the morning of June 4, the day the film opens.

It's a tactic studios normally use when there's a guaranteed niche audience, such as for horror movies or ones based on video games — the logic being that fans of the genre will show up, regardless of reviews.

But Killers is a mainstream romantic comedy with two A-list stars and a production budget of about $70 million.

This time, the studio said it would rather have viewers decide for themselves whether the movie is worthwhile, then write about it on Twitter or Facebook.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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– Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

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Canadian actress Sarah Polley plays a scientist who creates a genetically engineered creature in Splice.

Splice melting pot of genres: Polley

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

The upcoming Splice is a film set to subvert audience expectations.

Though marketed as big budget horror schlock from Hollywood, it's actually a rather thoughtful and unpredictable Canadian film from Cube director Vincenzo Natali that can be only be classified as a horror movie for lack of any other applicable genre.

The film stars the almost irritatingly talented Sarah Polley in a brief break from her burgeoning career as a director. The Sweet Hereafter star recently spoke with Metro about her new and difficult to classify movie.

"I don't know what it is actually," laughed Polley. "Its somewhere between a horror movie and a science fiction movie and a drama and a comedy, a real melting pot of genres. I think that's what makes it appealing to somebody like me who wouldn't traditionally seek out a science fiction or horror movie."

"I want to be in films that have something to say or are innovative or push the envelope in some way."
Sarah Polley

Polley appears alongside Adrien Brody as a pair of married scientists who have successfully created the first genetically engineered creature combing both human and animal DNA.

Shunned by the company funding their research, the couple begin raising the creature as their child and the film transforms from a monster movie into a bizarre commentary on the fears of parenthood.

"I think what's interesting about the film is that the humans are infinitely more monstrous than the creature at a certain point. We've always had monster movies to talk about ourselves and I think Splice is in that tradition in a strange way."

Polley is quick to acknowledge that she's not particularly enamoured with monster movies.

"I want to be in films that have something to say or are innovative or push the envelope in some way," explained Polley.

While Splice gets audiences talking this summer, Polley will be starting work on her next directorial outing, Take This Waltz starring Michelle Williams, Seth Rogen, and Sarah Silverman.

She described the film as "a romantic drama about a woman dealing with the honeymoon period in relationships and her attraction to that newness."

Polley is committed to transitioning out of acting and into directing. "It's definitely where I feel like I'm headed," admitted Polley.

The kids are going to be all right

Babies

Director: Thomas Balmes
Classification: G
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

IAN GORMELY
for Metro Canada

Babies is a classic example of a film that says more by doing less. Of course, just what it says is up for debate.

French director Thomas Balmes uses a deceptively simple concept, filming four babies in four different countries to explore the different ways we raise children across the world, from birth to first steps. There's no narration, interviews, inter or subtitles.

Just 79 minutes of babies sleeping, crying, crawling, walking, pooping and, in one case, escaping the machinations of a curious goat.

Even the parents are shot mostly from the neck down, their dialogue muffled by ambient sound in Balmes's Charlie Brown world.

But putting the focus firmly on the kids ensures that nothing is sugarcoated or glossed over and the long shots don't cut away when the baby starts to bawl. Balmes says that he has no agenda; he's not saying there's any one way to rear kids. But the two extremes in environment and culture his cast of titular characters are raised in reveals that he's got some serious reservations about the overscheduled, overstimulated way we our children. But the lack of narration allows viewers to take what they want from this film.

Two hours of cute babies? You got it. Or, if you'd rather, a political treatise on the divergent values of the First and developing worlds. Those with kids may well look at Babies as a nostalgic romp through the high points of early parenthood.

Those of us without, particularly if contemplating whether now's the time to pull the baby trigger, will find themselves hopping on a bus to the nearest monastery.

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This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY. 28 TO THURS., JUN. 3. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

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2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Babies (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3-5-7:20-9:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 1:45-4:30-10:10 Sat-Mon 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:10 Tue 1:45-4:30-10:10 Wed-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:10
Mao's Last Dancer (G) Fri 2-4:20-7:10-9:40 Sat 2-4:20-9:40 Sun-Thu 2-4:20-7:10-9:40
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:10-6:45-9:20 Sun 1:30-4:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:10-6:45-9:20
Sex and the City 2 (14A) Fri 1-4-7:10 Sat 1-4-6:50-7:10 Sun 1-4-6:30-7:10 Mon-Thu 1-4-7:10

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 6:55-9:35 Sat 1:30-4:15 Sun 1:30-4:15-6:55-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:10
Chloe (18A) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:25-3:50-7:10 Mon-Thu 5:50
Date Night (PG) Sat-Sun 1:35-4:10-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:15
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-8 Mon-Thu 8
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri 6:50-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:25
The Losers (PG) Fri-Sun 9:20 Mon-Thu 8:20
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:05-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:05
Oceans (G) Fri 6:45-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
Warriors (STC) Fri 7

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Last Song (G) Fri 9:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 9:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

Iron Man 2 (PG) DTS Digital Fri 7:15-10:05 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1-4:15-7:15-10:05 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:10-8
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7-9:45 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:45 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
Robin Hood (14A) DTS Digital Fri 6:45-9:50 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:50 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5-8:15

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

AXIS XS (STC) Sun
The Challenge (STC) Fri 9:15
The Future Trilogy (STC) Sun 7:30
Hands Over the City (STC) Thu 7
Lucky Luciano (STC) Wed 9
The Mattei Affair (STC) Fri 7 Sat 4:30
More Than a Miracle (STC) Wed 7
Neapolitan Diary (STC) Thu 9
Salvatore Giuliano (STC) Sat 9:10
The Swindlers (STC) Mon 7
Three Brothers (STC) Sat 7 Mon 9:05

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Shrek Forever After 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Robin Hood (14A) Fri 4-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:40

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) Fri 6:55-9:30 Sat 4:20-6:55-9:30 Sun 1:30-4:20-6:55-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:10 Fri-Sat 11
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:50-9:50 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:20-10:20
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:30-7:10-10:40-10:50
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-11:45-12:15-3-3:25-4-6:45-7:15-7:30-10:15-10:45 No Passes Mon 11:30-11:45-12:15-3-3:25-4-7:15-7:30-10:15-10:45 No Passes Tue-Wed 11:30-11:45-12:15-3-3:25-4-6:45-7:15-7:30-10:15-10:45 No Passes Thu 11:30-11:45-12:15-3-3:25-4-7:15-7:30-10:15-10:45
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Wed 12-1-2:30-3:50-5-6:30-7:40-8:45-10:10 No Passes Thu 12-1-2:30-3:50-5-7:40-9:30-10:10

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

Exit Through the Gift Shop (PG) Fri-Tue 1:05-3:15-5:25-7:35-9:55 Wed 1:05-3:15-9:55 Thu 1:05-3:15-5:25-9:55
Harry Brown (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 2:15-4:40-7:10-9:35
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Wed 1:30-4-6:30-9 Thu 1:30-4-6:30-9-11:30
Just Wright (G) Fri-Thu 2:35-5:05-7:40-10:10
Kites (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-3:30-5:45-7:55-10:05
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Wed 1:15-2:45-3:45-5:15-6:35-7:45-9:05-10:15 Thu 1:15-2:45-3:45-5:15-6:35-7:45-9:05-10:15-11:35
MacGruber (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-3:25-5:40-8:10:20
Mao's Last Dancer (G) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:35-7:20-10
Please Give (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-5:10-7:25-9:45
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-7-9:50
The Trotsky (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:05-9:40

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film
vifc.org

Henry V (STC) Mon 6:30
The Maid (STC) Fri 6:30-8:15 Sun 5:15-7-8:45 Wed 6:30-8:15 Thu 2-6:30-8:15
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat
The Planet (STC) Tue 7:30

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

Sex and the City 2 (14A) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:40-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:45
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri 7-7:30-9:50-10:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:20-1:10-3:40-4-7-7:30-9:50-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-7:30-9:50-10:15
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri 6:45-8:10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:12:40-3:20-4:30-6:45-8:10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:45-8:10:10

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Date Night (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 11:50-3:20-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30
MacGruber (14A) Fri 7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Robin Hood (14A) Fri 6:40-7:10-9:40-10:10 Sat 11:40-12:20-3:3:30-6:40-7:10-9:40-10:10 Sun 11:40-12:20-3:3:30-6:40-8-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-8-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri 6:30-7-8:50-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 11:30-12-1:50-2:20-4:10-4:40-6:30-7-8:50-9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-7-8:50-9:20

Carrie, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, heads to the Middle East in Sex and the City 2.

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 3:55-7:05-9:55 Sat 12:45-3:55-7:05-9:55 Sun 12:45-3:55-7:05 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:05
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri 4:05-7:20-9:45 Sat 12:55-4:05-7:20-9:45 Sun 12:55-4:05-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:20
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri 4-7:10-9:50 No Passes Sat 12:50-4-7:10-9:50 No Passes Sun 12:50-4-7:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 4-7:10
Robin Hood (14A) Fri 3:50-7:10 Sat 12:40-3:50-7:10 Sun 12:40-3:50-7 Mon-Thu 3:50-7
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri 3:45-6:55-10:05 No Passes Sat 12:35-3:45-6:55-10:05 No Passes Sun 12:35-3:45-6:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:45-6:55
Shrek Forever After (G) No Passes Fri 5-7:15-9:35 No Passes Sat 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:35 No Passes Sun 12:30-2:45-5-7:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 5-7:15

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:25
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:55-12:35-3:25-4:05-6:55-7:25-10:05-10:50
Kites (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:40-6:55-10:05
Kites: The Remix (STC) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:20-6:50-9:45
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-7:15-10:25
MacGruber (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:30-7:20-10:20
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:45-10:40
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-1-3:35-4:15-7:05-7:35-10:15-10:45
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Thu 11:35-12:20-3:05-3:45-6:35-7:10-9:55-10:35
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12-3-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sat 12:30-4-7:30-11 No Passes Sun-Wed 12:30-4-7:30-10:45 No Passes Thu 4:15-7:30-10:45 No Passes Thu 1
Shrek Forever After (G) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:15-4:10-6:45-9:25 No Passes Thu 4:10-6:45-9:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-12:30-2:30-3-5-5:30-7:30-8:10-10:30
Shrek Forever After: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Robin Hood (14A) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Mon 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Tue-Thu 6:30-9:30
Shrek Forever After (G) Fri 5-7-9 Sat-Mon 1-3-5-7-9 Tue-Thu 5-7-9

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:35-6:55-10:15
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Tue 11:40-2:15-4:45-7:35-10:25 Wed 12:40-3:50-10:25 Thu 11:40-2:15-4:45-7:35-10:25
MacGruber (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:05-10:10
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-12:45-3:20-4:15-6:45-7:45-9:45-10:40
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:55-7:15-10:35
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:12-3:30-4-7:7:25-10:30-10:45
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-11:55-2-2:30-4:35-5-7:10-7:30-9:40-10

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 4:05-7:05-9:55 Sat 1:05-4:05-7:05-9:55 Sun 1:05-4:05-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:05
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri 4:15-7:15-10:15 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15
Date Night (PG) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:25 Sat 1:25-4:30-7:30-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri 4:10-7:10-9:45 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:45 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
Just Wright (G) Fri 4:25-7:25-10:05 Sat 1:35-4:25-7:25-10:05 Sun 1:35-4:25-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:25
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri 4-7-10 Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 4-7
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Babies (G) Fri-Tue 1:3:15-5:15-7:15-9:20 Wed 3:15-5:15-7:15-9:20 Thu 1-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-7:35
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-7:40
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:20-6:50-9:05
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:10-4:45-7:25-10:05
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-12:30-1:05-3:15-3:40-4:30-6:20-7:15-8-9:30-10:25
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:15-7:25-10:20
MacGruber (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-5-7:55-10:35
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 10:15
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-12:40-3:15-3:45-6:50-7:30-9:45-10:30
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Wed 11:35-12-3-3:30-6:25-7-9:50-10:20 Thu 11:35-12:30-3-3:30-6:25-7-9:50-10:20
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 11:30-12-1:15-3-3:30-4:45-6:45-7:10-8:15-10:15-10:40 No Passes Wed 11:30-12-3-3:30-4:45-6:45-7:10-8:15-10:15-10:40 No Passes Thu 11:30-12-1:15-3-3:30-4:45-6:45-7:10-8:15-10:15-10:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Shrek Forever After (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:40-9:15
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12:15-2-2:45-4:35-5:15-7:05-7:45-9:40-10:15
The Trotsky (PG) Fri-Thu 10:05

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Shrek Forever After (G) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 1:30-7 Mon-Wed 7 Thu 12:30-7

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 5 Sat-Sun 12:45-5 Mon-Thu 5
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 8:45
Date Night (PG) Fri 7:10-9 Sat-Sun 3-7:10-9 Mon-Thu 7:10-9
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (G) Sat-Sun 12:45
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 4:45 Sat-Sun 2:45-4:45 Mon-Thu 4:45
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri 4:45-6:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-2:45-4:45-6:45 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:45
The Last Song (G) Fri-Thu 6:45
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 9

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

Ekam - Son of Soil (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:15-8
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:40-10:35
Kites (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:40-4:40-7:10-8:10-10:10
Kites: The Remix (STC) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:25-4:50-7:50-10:40
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:15
MacGruber (14A) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:40
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:40-3:50-7:20-10:20 No Passes Wed 3:50-7:20-10:20 No Passes Thu 12:40-3:50-7:20-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:10-6:40-9:50
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:10-3:30-7:10:30 No Passes Wed 4:10-7:25-10:35 No Passes Thu 12:10-3:30-7:10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-1:10-2:30-4:10-5-6:50-7:30-9:30-10

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

How to Train Your Dragon (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-4:35
Iron Man 2 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
Kites (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Letters to Juliet (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:20-10:05
MacGruber (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:05-9:35
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 7:25-9:55
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:30-10:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:30
Robin Hood (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-6:55-10:20
Sex and the City 2 (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:45-4:45-7-8-10:15
Shrek Forever After (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-1:45-4-4:30-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1-1:45-4-4:30-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterontheatres.com

Robin Hood (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri 7-9:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-7-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:45

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criterontheatres.com

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:10-9:35 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:35
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri 7:20-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:10-7:20-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40
Shrek Forever After (G) No Passes Fri 7-7:30-9-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-2:30-7-7:30-9-9:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-7:30-9-9:15

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 7:20-10:25
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:55-6:55-9:55
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:35
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:15-4:50-7:25-10:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:30-11:50-2:40-3:10-6-7:05-9:35-10:20
Letters to Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:10-9:50
MacGruber (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:50-10:45
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 7:40-10:35
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 11:55-2:20-4:45
Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-12:45-3:15-3:45-7:15-7:45-10:15-10:40
Robin Hood (14A) Fri-Thu 11:35-12:35-2:45-3:50-6:30-7:35-9:55-10:40
Sex and the City 2 (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:12:30-3:30-4-7:7:30-10:30-10:45 No Passes Wed 11:30-12-3:30-7-7:30-10:30-10:45 No Passes Thu 12-12:30-3:30-4-7-7:30-10:30-10:45 No Passes Fri-Thu 1-5-9 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
Shrek Forever After (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:55-3:25-6:15-8:50 No Passes Wed 12:55-6:15-8:50 No Passes Thu 12:55-3:25-6:15-8:50 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
Shrek Forever After 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:05-12:30-2:30-3-5:05-5:30-7:35-8-10:10:15 No Passes Wed 12:05-12:30-2:15-3-4:15-5:30-8-10:10:15 No Passes Thu 12:05-12:30-2:30-3-5:05-5:30-7:35-8-10-10:15
Shrek Forever After: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:15
She's Out of My League (14A) Fri-Sat 1:30
Shrek Forever After (G) Fri-Thu 9:30

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Top 5 albums on the Billboard 200

1. Glee: The Music, Volume 3: Showstoppers, Glee Cast; 2. Exile on Main Street (Deluxe Edition), The Rolling Stones; 3. Brothers, The Black Keys; 4. My World 2.0, Justin Bieber; 5. Distant Relatives, Nas and Damian Marley. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

In brief

CHARTS The following is HMV Canada's top 10 CDs based on national sales:
1. Stone Temple Pilots — Stone Temple Pilots
2. Glee: The Music, Volume 3: Showstoppers — Glee Cast
3. Exile on Main Street (Deluxe Edition) — The Rolling Stones
4. My World 2.0 — Justin Bieber
5. Wavin' Flag — Young Artists for Haiti
6. The E.N.D. — The Black Eyed Peas
7. Brothers — The Black Keys
8. Need You Now — Lady Antebellum
9. The Show Must Go — Hedley
10. Infinite Arms — Band of Horses

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Follow Metro's Rob McMahon Tweet from the Sasquatch Festival this weekend: **@TheMetroMusic**

Dark side of Winterleep

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

If there's one thing Wintersleep doesn't want to be accused of, it's being a brooding band. The Halifax-cum-Montreal five-piece know their music is dark, but that's where their moodiness ends.

"We're not bleak people," says singer Paul Murphy on the phone from Toronto's Hyatt Hotel. "We have this dark channel we turn on, but it's not about being p—ed off."

He's right, the band isn't angry, but they sometimes have a twisted way of looking at the world. On Encyclopedia, the second track off the band's latest album, New Inheritors, Murphy sings about a character who "was flat on his back on the beach in the freezing sand." By the end of the song Murphy wonders if he's still alive and, when he realizes he is he asks, "what's it worth?"

There's also a bit of hopefulness, in a roundabout way. On Terrible Man he talks about a 27-year-old who's afraid of aging and has female problems. He doesn't get the girl, but in the end seems calmly resigned with his lot in life.

Murphy says all that gloominess is a "means to an end, where the end is not necessarily bleak but it's the way of getting there."

While Murphy says that much of the words came from a personal place, outside influences — the collapsing economy, wars and other world issues that occurred since they released their last record, the Juno-winning Welcome to the Night Sky — also account for some of the unhappier subject matter.

"This record isn't about Iraq or 9/11," says Murphy, "but this sort of stuff will leak into the songwriting and the mood. It's part of everybody's existence."

Wintersleep took home the Juno Award for new group of the year in 2008.

Musically the band is at their strongest. They tackle a range of sounds from peppy indie rock on Black Camera to epic, atmospherics on Baltic. But it's on opener Experience the Jewel where the band has evolved the most — it's the first time they've used strings, and orchestral arrangements created by Belle & Sebastian's Mick Cooke no less.

"We felt there was some room for strings on the song," Murphy explains. "We could have done more but we didn't want to go crazy. We don't have a string section that we tour with.

"We've never done that before," he adds. "We thought it would be neat to have it on songs that we felt could maybe use a lift."

For many, this disc will be worth the three-year wait and while Murphy doesn't think it'll take as long to release the next one, he'll only know for sure when his gut, or rather, bodily functions, tell him to get off the road and back into the studio.

"We're not bleak people. We have this dark channel we turn on, but it's not about being p—ed off."
Paul Murphy

"This is the longest you can go without going nuts from touring the same songs," he says. "You keep going until you feel like you're going to throw up."

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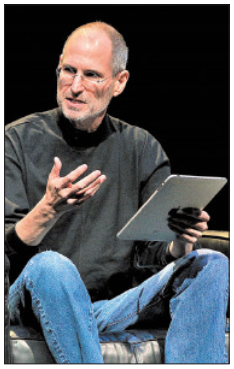
How the iPad could change face of music

SoundCheck

Now that Canadians are taking delivery of their iPads, let's look at what Steve's device could mean for music:

• A big uptick in impulse purchases. It'll be even easier to say "yes" to a single song for $1.29. Before you know it, you'll have said "yes" 10 times. It'll be interesting to see what this will mean for the concept of the album.

• This is the real beginning of the end for traditional printed music magazines. Can you imagine iPad–based music magazines that update constantly? I can't wait for Rolling Stone, Q, Mojo and the rest of them adapt. No more waiting for that monthly issue. And no more being two months behind with U.K. publications.



Apple CEO Steve Jobs demonstrates how to use the new Apple iPad.

• The social networking aspect of music — sharing song recommendations — will speed up.

• Think of what this means to soundtracks for movies and TV shows. As you're watching, say, Grey's Anatomy on your iPad and you want to know what the mournful song is under Meredith's sappy soliloquy in the final act, you can just tap to buy instantly. Same with movie soundtracks. If I were into music licensing, I'd prepare for an onslaught of new business.

• And why stop at movies and TV? Now that the iBook store is here, why not assemble soundtracks for books? Can you imagine what Nick Hornby's Hi-Fidelity would sound like?

• Radio will evolve. We're moving closer and closer to a time where all content will be available on demand. Why not on-demand radio? You continue with your real-time over-the-air broadcast, but you also make everything available to your audience so they can consume what you do on their terms.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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Michaels' Idol performance a surprise to family, doctor

Bret Michaels didn't tell his doctors or his family that he planned to perform on American Idol. Though the rocker and reality TV star has suffered from life-threatening health problems recently, he sang on Wednesday's star-studded season finale. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Television

Galecki appreciates the trials of geekdom

Television and stage veteran Johnny Galecki is wrapping up his third season on the breakout hit The Big Bang Theory, and while co-star Jim Parsons has been getting more of the awards attention as antisocial super-genius Sheldon, Galecki's slightly less socially awkward Leonard gets to enjoy an on-again, off-again romantic story line with neighbor Penny (Kelly Cuoco).

Galecki spoke with Metro about Comci-Con, not delaying on-screen romance and playing before a live studio audience.

Q Were you glad the writers brought Penny and Leonard together relatively early instead of dragging it out?

A Yeah. Chuck Lorre said it best that dangling that romance carrot over an audience's head for a long period of time for many, many seasons has been done a lot, and it's been done very, very well a lot. You know, Leonard has no experience in romance, and I think that Penny's experience in romance has not been all that profound or significant. And I love that it's not become the focal point of the show in any way because that just rings true to me. There's always other things going on in your life.

Q How do you relate to your character?

A I wasn't a science geek. I was a theater geek, and I think that's how all four of us guys can relate to our characters. I'm from Chicago where if you're not a jock, then you're not the most popular kid by any means. Jim is from Texas, where that must be the case even more so. So, you know, that's something that we all share with our characters, and I think that refuge that people find in fantasy and science fiction is common when you feel like an outsider growing up. I didn't have all that many friends, but I had action figures to go home and play with, comic books to read.

Q Do you like working with a studio audience?

A Totally. The cameras are really, really easy for me to ignore. It feels like any other theater stage I've worked on. That's what we're doing, you know? These are 22-minute plays we put on every week.

Q With a studio audience, how do you cope when a joke fails?

A It depends on how drastic their lack of a reaction is. It's funny because you expected the laugh there for so long that you just start laughing. I've just fallen flat on my face, haven't I? The writers are right there, and they're great. It's amazing how in 30 seconds they'll have six alternatives for that joke that's conducive to the scene, the timing, and the people in it. It's just incredible.

Q Do you get recognized a lot in public?

A Yeah, we all do. The fact that we all hang out a lot in public still probably doesn't help. I do, on occasion, wear glasses for reading and driving, and that just looks like I'm trying to get recognized now, you know? This has been an entirely different world for us, especially for Jim. Nobody knew who Jim was two years ago, and now he's gotten Emmy nominations, things like that. Also — and this used to happen with John Goodman a lot — because of his height, he walks in the room and everybody looks over. I can hide in the corner, and you never see me.

Q What about Comic-Con? You must be pretty popular there.

A Well, Comic-Con is amazing. The fans are very sweet. Everyone says that about fans of whatever project they're working on, but I think especially they approach these characters in such a protective manner because they're such vulnerable characters.

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES FOR PCA

The Big Bang Theory's Johnny Galecki.

FRIDAY 5/28/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	22 Minutes	Laughs	Ron James: Manitoba Bound		CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Medium "Bite Me" (CC)		Flashpoint (CC)		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Friday Night Lights (N)		The Good Guys "Pilot"		NUMB3RS "Breaking Point"		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Past Life "Saint Sarah" (N)		Stargate Atlantis (CC)		Cold Case "Glory Days"		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Murdoch Mysteries		Scrubs (CC)	Better Off	Murdoch Mysteries		Warehouse 13 "Elements"		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Smallville "Savior" (CC)		Supernatural (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Medium "Bite Me" (CC)		Miami Medical "Pilot" (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Friday Night Lights (N)		Dateline NBC (CC)				KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap "McLeish/O'Dell"		20/20 A woman is suspected of murder. (N) (CC)				News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Past Life "Saint Sarah" (N)		The Good Guys "Pilot"		News	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Doc Zone "Web Warriors"		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Cooper 360
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Hockey	UFC	Canucks TV		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NBA Basketball		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		30 for 30		E:60 (CC)		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	To Be Indie	To Be Indie	To Be Indie	To Be Indie	10 Things	10 Things	10 Things I Hate About You ★ (1999) (CC)		
	555	545	30 TEL	Batman	Wolverine	Justice	Star Wars	Futurama	King of Hill	Blade II ★★ (2002) Wesley Snipes. (CC)		
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Leaving the Lights (CC)		Poirot (CC)		Dalziel and Pascoe (CC)		To Tulsa and Back: On Tour With J.J. Cale		
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	CMT's Greatest		Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Jim
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "3rd Life"		Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	24 TLC	Four Weddings (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Four Weddings (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes
	616	522	39 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		NYC: Tornado Terror (2008) Nicole de Boer. (CC)				Kenny vs.	Pure Pwnage	Misfits (CC)
	294	650	47 TBS	Madea's Family Reunion		(:10) The Fighting Temptations ★★ (2003) Cuba Gooding Jr. (CC)						(:40) Freedom Writers (2007)
	603	561	69 FN	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Ramsay's Kitchen		Diners	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Diners, Drive
	-	-	35 AMC	True Crime	Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life ★★ (2003) Angelina Jolie.					The Frighteners ★★ (1996) Michael J. Fox.		
	320	621	50 CEN	(6:00) Terminator Salvation		Star Trek ★★★ (2009) Chris Pine. Premiere.				(:05) Run Fat Boy Run ★★ (2007) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Live	Movie Night	After

SATURDAY 5/29/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	NHL Hockey		To Be Announced		News	To Be Announced		Sling Blade ★★★ (1996)	
	250	321	9 CTV	W5 (CC) (DVS)		Flashpoint "Scorpio" (CC)		The Bridge "Chain of Fools"		Law & Order: SVU		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	16:9-Picture	renegade	You Lucky Dog (2010) Natasha Henstridge. Premiere. (CC)				Jane Show	G-Spot (CC)	News Final
	256	389	12 VI	Road to Avonlea (CC)		Lost "The End" The series concludes. (CC)				(:05) Defying Gravity "Pilot"		Bravo!FACT
	253	359	13 CITY	Cooking	Amazing	Glenn Martin	Out There	Housesitter (2007, Suspense) Tori Spelling. (CC) (DVS)				Crusoe
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Little Black Book ★★ (2004) Brittany Murphy.				CSI: NY "Cold Reveal"		CSI: Miami
	289	381	15 CBS	Paid Program	Paid Program	Flashpoint "Scorpio" (CC)		48 Hours Mystery (CC)		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	NHL Hockey		To Be Announced						KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Lost "The End" The series concludes. (CC)					(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	America's Most Wanted		News	Most Wanted	Wanda Sykes
news	502	390	23 NW	Assassination		National	Issue	National	Mansbridge	Assassination		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Week/B'ball	MLS Soccer Toronto FC at San Jose Earthquakes. (Live)				The Grid	Sportsnet Connected		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	NBA Basketball		SportsCentre (CC)		Boxing Arreola vs. Adamek & Angulo vs. Julio.				SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
	555	545	30 TEL	Chicken Run ★★★ (2000, Comedy) Voices of Mel Gibson.				Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Venture Bros.	Moral Orel
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Amazing Planet (CC)		Heartbeat (CC)		Midsomer Murders "Dance With the Dead" (CC)				Tour-J.J. Cale
	575	583	20 CMT	Tim McGraw:	McGraw	The Show	Talkin' 'Bout	Gilmore Girls (CC)		Gilmore Girls (CC)		Tuckerville
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "In Heat"		CSI: Miami "Raising Caine"		(:01) Criminal Minds "P911"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	24 TLC	Dr. G: Shocking Cases		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		Dr. G: Shocking Cases		Dr. G: Shocking Cases		Evidence
	616	522	39 SHO	ReGenesis (CC)		Cleaverville (2007, Suspense) Ever Carradine. (CC)				Resident Evil: Extinction ★★ (2007) (CC)		
	294	650	47 TBS	(:05) Last Holiday ★★ (2006, Comedy) Queen Latifah, Gérard Depardieu.						(:20) Deliver Us From Eva ★★ (2003) LL Cool J. (CC)		
	603	561	69 FN	Top Chef Masters (CC)		French Food at Home (CC)		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Chopped (CC)		Top Chef
	-	-	35 AMC	The Outlaw Josey Wales		Pale Rider ★★★ (1985, Western) Clint Eastwood, Michael Moriarty.					The Outlaw Josey Wales	
	320	621	50 CEN	(6:20) Role Models ★★★		A Perfect Getaway ★★ (2009) Steve Zahn.				(:45) What Doesn't Kill You ★★★ (2008) Mark Ruffalo.		
	581	566	101 MTV	MTV Live	Movie Night	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Movie Night	1 girl 5 gays	Sex News	After

SUNDAY 5/30/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Geologic Journey (CC)		Shania: A Life in Eight Albums (2005) Meredith Henderson.				CBC News: The National		News
	250	321	9 CTV	Degrassi	Degrassi	Turn the Beat Around (2010) Romina D'Ugo. Premiere. (CC)				Criminal Minds (CC)		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	King of Hill	Cleveland Sh	Simpsons	Family Guy	The Summit (2008) (Part 1 of 2) Mia Maestro. Premiere.				News Final
	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (N) (CC)		Cold Case "Shore Leave"		Would Be Kings (2008) (Part 1 of 2) Currie Graham.				New Canoe
	253	359	13 CITY	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Murdoch Mysteries (N)		Survivorman (CC) (DVS)		Crusoe
	-	-	14 CW	Boston Legal (CC)		CSI: Miami "Spring Break"		CSI: NY "Snow Day" (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes Presents: Gotti		60 Minutes (N) (CC)		Cold Case "Forensics"		Cold Case "Dead Heat"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Dateline NBC (CC)				Saturday Night Live in the 2000s: Time and Again (CC)				KING 5 News
	288	380	21 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		The Bachelorette Ali Fedotowsky searches for true love.				News
	290	382	23 FOX	NASCAR Racing		Washington	Raymond	Family Guy	Family Guy	News	Sports	House (CC)
news	502	390	23 NW	Lady's Guide to Brothels Legalize brothels.			Mansbridge	CBC News: The National		Lady's Guide to Brothels Legalize brothels.		
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		State of the Union		Larry King Live		Newsroom		State/Union
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Replay		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NBA Basketball		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		30 for 30		Fight Sports		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Air Bud: Golden Receiver ★		To Be Indie	Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
	555	545	30 TEL	Spliced	Total Drama	Stoked	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Futurama	Tripping-Rift
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Nat'l Geographic Specials		The Royal "In the Air" (CC)		George Gently George delays retirement. (CC)				Get Up Stand
	575	583	20 CMT	Meet-Wilsons	Meet-Wilsons	Doc Walker: Live at Revival		Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Hope & Faith
	615	520	31 A&E	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator
	521	560	24 TLC	Paralyzed and Pregnant		My Shocking Story (CC)		My Shocking Story (CC)		Paralyzed and Pregnant		LA Ink (CC)
	616	522	39 SHO	Pure Pwnage	Trailer Park	Devil's Diary (2007) Alexz Johnson, Miriam McDonald. (CC)				Resident Evil: Apocalypse ★★ (2004) (CC)		
	294	650	47 TBS	Get Married?	Madea's Family Reunion ★★ (2006) Tyler Perry. (CC)					(:45) Why Did I Get Married? ★★ (2007) Tyler Perry.		
	603	561	69 FN	Dinner: Impossible (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner
	-	-	35 AMC	Breaking Bad "Abiquiu" (N)		(:02) Breaking Bad "Abiquiu"		(:03) Mad Men (CC)		(:02) Breaking Bad "Abiquiu"		Antwone F
	320	621	50 CEN	(6:20) Land of the Lost ★		District 9 ★★★ (2009) Sharlto Copley, Jason Cope.				RocknRolla ★★ (2008) Gerard Butler. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Challenge		MTV Live	Movie Night	1 girl 5 gays	Ult. Parkour	The Challenge		1 girl 5 gays

Nelson cuts his hair

Country music fans have come to expect a little eccentricity from legendary crooner Willie Nelson, but he pulled off a real shocker this time. The singer cut off his signature waist-deep, reddish pigtails! THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going Out

Mix of Six

Fight Cancer With Beer

When: Friday, 8 p.m.
Where: Migz BBQ On Broadway

Join Team 1040 radio personality Scott Rintoul at this fundraiser for the Ride to Conquer Cancer, which is happening June 19-20 when a group of cyclists bike from Vancouver to Seattle. Tix: $20.

Seaforth Highlanders host Ceilidh

When: Saturday, 2 p.m.
Where: The Seaforth Highlanders Armoury, 1650 Burrard

The Ceilidh includes a welcome home parade for Seaforth troops returning from Afghanistan, tours of the regimental museum and Scottish delicacies. Info: seaforth100.com.

A Night At The Museum of Vancouver

When: Friday, 7 p.m.
Where: Museum of Vancouver, 1100 Chestnut

Comedian Conor Holler hosts a live talk show with CBC Radio 3's Grant Lawrence and Vancouver Special author Charles Demers. Dan Mangan is the musical guest. After party at the museum's back patio overlooking Vanier Park. Info: museumofvancouver.ca.

Becky's New Car

When: Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.
Where: Arts Club Theatre, Granville Island Stage

An unexpected offer from a millionaire falls into Becky's lap sparking a comic and poignant joyride that may change everything forever. Tickets $25 to $45. Info: 604-687-1644 or artsclub.com

EAT! Vancouver Food + Cooking Festival

When: Friday to Sunday
Where: Vancouver Convention Centre-West, Canada Place

The festival showcases local cuisine, new kitchen accessories, wine and spirits, and offers cooking tutorials. Tix: $6-$15. Info: eat-vancouver.com.

CircusWest presents Around the World in 80 Days

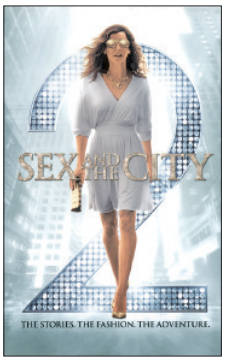
When: Until Sunday
Where: PNE Garden Auditorium

Vancouver-based troupe CircusWest offers an acrobatic take on the Jules Verne tale. Info: circuswest.com and 604 252-3679.

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 SATC 2

BOOK On your way out to catch the sequel this weekend, check out Sex And The City 2: The Stories. The Fashion. The Adventure (Running Press) for a detailed look at the glamourous ensembles the four fabulous friends wear on their adventure from New York City to the Middle East. Label information on each piece of clothing as well as tons of beautiful photos make up the bulk of the book. However, behind-the-scenes stories, actor interviews and a look at other key cast members are also included. Available at Chapters stores nationwide for $25.

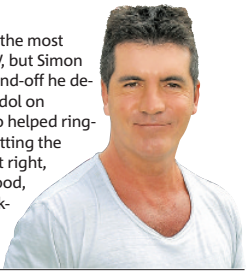


2 iPAD

TECHNOLOGY Expect long lines at your local Apple, Best Buy, Future Shop and other tech stores on Friday: Aplen's new iPad — enabling you to browse the net, read books and newspapers, and do a number of other cool things — goes officially on sale.

3 Simon Cowell

TV He may be one of the most derisive people on TV, but Simon Cowell still got the send-off he deserved on American Idol on Wednesday night. The man who helped ring-in reality television — and is quitting the show after nine seasons — did it right, with guest stars Carrie Underwood, Christina Aguilera and Janet Jackson.



4 Alice in Wonderland

DVD Tim Burton's take on the classic Alice in Wonderland hits store shelves on Tuesday. The director's new spin on the story of the Mad Hatter, White Queen and Red Queen will be available in DVD and Blu-Ray and digital copies.

5 Arcade Fire

MUSIC Montreal indie sensation Arcade Fire announced this week that new album The Suburbs will be released on Aug. 3. A limited edition 12-inch will be available in stores on May 27, featuring singles Month of May and The Suburbs. Both those tracks are also currently streaming at arcadefire.com.

6 Liza Minnelli

CELEBRITY It looks like Liza Minnelli can still belt them out. The daughter of the late Judy Garland is featured in the new Sex And The City movie doing her rendition of Beyoné's Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It). Of course, we all know what happened the last time Liza tied the knot.

7 Butting Out

HEALTH There's no better way mark the start of the summer season then by butting-out, at least that's part of the idea behind World No Tobacco Day on Monday. Those thinking of quitting can visit smokershelpline.ca for some tips.

Polanski's life, 8 months on

PEOPLE The chalet doors and windows are wide open. Deck chairs are set up on the patio and the garden is strewn with daffodils and wild flowers.

Roman Polanski appears to be leading a charmed existence under house arrest in the luxury resort of Gstaad, as he awaits word from Swiss authorities on whether he'll be extradited to the United States for raping a 13-year-old girl in 1977.

And he may not be going anywhere soon.

Eight months after his arrest, the Swiss Justice Ministry still won't say when it will decide whether the 76-year-old director should be sent back to Los Angeles to face sentencing for unlawful sexual intercourse. And officials won't even say what the holdup is.

For Polanski, confined since December to his Gstaad chalet and garden, life seems to be moving on as well as could be imagined when an electronic monitoring bracelet is wrapped around your ankle.

His critically acclaimed film The Ghost Writer continues its global rollout, and people close to the filmmaker say he's looking into directing a movie version of the Broadway show God of Carnage provided his legal situation clears up.

On a recent afternoon, his home was the very picture of Alpine calm as the wind swept through two sets of open double-doors to his backyard and another to a first-floor balcony. A pair of construction workers were busy on home improvements and the jangling of cowbells could be heard in the offing. The paparazzi were long gone.

Roman Polanski

Folco Galli, a spokesman for the Swiss Justice Ministry, provided no timeline for a decision that might free Polanski or confirm his transfer to U.S. authorities. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sunday, June 6, 2010

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www.thedrive.ca/italian-day-2010.shtm

Commercial Drive

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To get you excited about Italian Day, Metro is giving away four gift baskets filled with goodies from local merchants (value $100).
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Stallone's adviser charged

A financial adviser to celebrities including Wesley Snipes and Sylvester Stallone has been arrested on charges that he carried out a $30 million US fraud on his clients. Kenneth Starr, 65, of Manhattan was charged with wire fraud and money laundering. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Too many flops, and you get that label

The term "showkiller" can send a chill down the spine of any TV star. Just ask Eric Balfour.

The California native is among a handful of actors and actresses who have occasionally been singled out by critics as "showkillers" — people who practically guarantee a series will not catch on with audiences.

"I kept auditioning for television shows that went to pilot, the network picked it up and it went on the air," says Balfour, currently shooting the Showcase and Syfy drama Haven in Nova Scotia.

"For whatever reason, those shows didn't stay on the air. And there was a moment when everyone went, 'Oh, it's Eric...'"

Landing a role in a Dick Wolf legal drama in 2006 seemed like Balfour's ticket to renewal. But when even Conviction failed to win a renewal verdict, critics pounced, and that seems unfair, says Balfour. He argues that he has no control over writing, producing or scheduling.

Part of the showkiller rap can be blamed on the semi-annual network press tours in Los Angeles, where cast members and producers are paraded out on stages each new season. Many critics in that room keep seeing the same faces every year, and after a few flops, the "showkiller" tag starts to surface.

Paula Marshall is a prime example. While her press tour appearances are usually winners, she seems to have bad luck landing a series that sticks. Critics generally rooted for her in the 1998-99 series Cupid, but it was cancelled after 15 episodes.

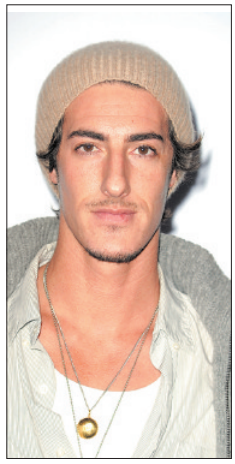
Within eight years, she starred in six different series that lasted less than a season, including Snoops (1999) and Hidden Hills (2002). Gary Unmarried was her first series to be picked up past the first season; it was just cancelled at CBS.

The good news for actors like Balfour and Marshall is that Hollywood casting agents keep seeking out these same actors for series roles. Many of the stars recently announced for the upcoming 2010-11 TV season are familiar faces, with William Shatner, Tom Selleck and Jim Belushi all part of the mix.

Popular TV stars such as Robert Urich (Vegas, Spenser for Hire) and Harry Morgan (MASH) also had more misses than hits. Even Bob Newhart struck out before and after his sitcom classics of the '70s and '80s.

The showkiller tag even pre-dates TV itself. Katharine Hepburn was dismissed as "box office poison" back in the '30s before enjoying a long, Oscar-winning career.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Eric Balfour in shooting yet another series.

Paula Marshall's latest series was just cancelled.

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▲ Free banking offer is available when you open one new Scotiabank Powerchequing Account by December 31, 2010 as well as conduct one Western Union Money Transfer transaction through Scotiabank within 90 days of account activation. Free banking offer refers to a waiver of the monthly account fee for the Scotiabank Powerchequing Account package for 12 months beginning in the month in which the account is opened; additional fees apply for shared ABM services, cross-border debit transactions and all other banking services not included in the Scotiabank Powerchequing Account package. Offer expires December 31, 2010. Offer may be withdrawn at any time and cannot be combined with any other offer.
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Different on-ice battle for Theo Fleury

Former NHL star Theo Fleury is set to lace up for the upcoming season of Battle of the Blades.

He'll join Russ Courtnall and six other hockey stars for a second go-round of the kitschy CBC reality show, which kicks off Sept. 26.

Fleury recently made headlines for alleging sexual abuse at the hands of former coach Graham James. "Blades" executive producer John Brunton says Fleury will be a strong competitor on the show.

"It's a great opportunity, Battle of the Blades, to kind of reinvent yourself and it's a great opportunity to be seen by the Canadian public in a different light than what you've necessarily been seen as," he said.

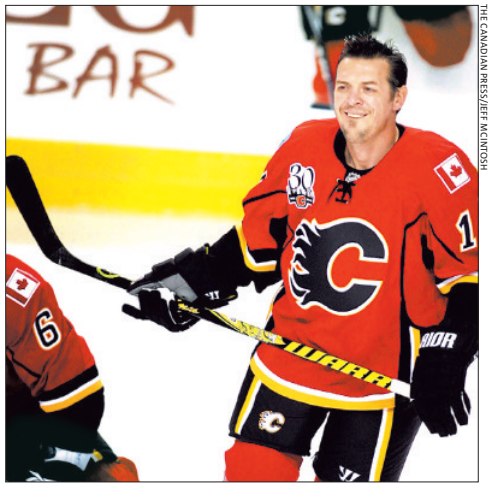
"My hope for this is that it brings some excitement and some fun to a life that's been very dark and very troubled at times and that he has a great opportunity to have as much fun as we have doing the show."

Claims by the 41-year-old Fleury reopened an investigation into James over abuse that allegedly took place during the 1980s.

CBC announced the Battle of the Blades competitors as it revealed a fall lineup anchored by a sitcom based on the Paul Gross curling film, Men With Brooms and a reality series starring Debbie Travis that will profile unsung heroes across the country.

Returning programs include The Ron James Show, Being Erica, The Tudors, Rick Mercer Report, Heartland, and Dragons' Den.

Rival networks CTV, Canwest and Rogers are set to announce their fall lineups next week.



THE CANADIAN PRESS/JEFF MCINTOSH

Theo Fleury trades his hockey stick for some figure skating moves in the next Battle of the Blades

The new season of "Battle" will also include newly retired pairs skater Anabelle Langlois, and returning figure skaters Shae-Lynn Bourne and Christine Hough-Sweeney.

Meanwhile, Men With Brooms joins CBC's Monday-night lineup Sept. 20. The single-camera comedy is about a group of friends who hang out at the same small-town curling club that was featured in the 2002 movie.

The debut features a cameo appearance by Gross, who resumes his role as curling star Chris Cutter, but direct tie-ins to the original film end there, says writer Paul Mather.

"It's set in the same small town, it's got the same kind of spirit of the movie but what I keep saying is, it's a little bit like Star Trek: The Next Generation, " says Mather.

"We're not going out of our way to reinvent anything but we're not matching the art design of the original film. We're taking some licence with that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trudeau in fictional politics

Political star Justin Trudeau is the latest real-life politician to appear on the upcoming city hall sitcom She's The Mayor. Producers of the VisionTV series say the eldest son of former prime minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau visited the Toronto set to earlier this week. She's The Mayor stars Janet-Laine Green as Iris Peters, the neophyte mayor of the dysfunctional city of Fairfax. Trudeau, a Liberal MP for the Montreal riding of Papineau, is just the latest political figure to join the cast for a cameo. Others have included former prime minister Kim Campbell and former MP Jean Augustine. She's the Mayor is expected to premiere later this year on VisionTV.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawsuit against Bundchen, Brady dismissed
A judge has dismissed a lawsuit by two photographers who said they were shot at by bodyguards of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bundchen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celebrity Buzz

Fergie going on Oprah

WHAT'S $724,000 BETWEEN GOOD FRIENDS? The Duchess of York is taking her side of the story to the queen of television.

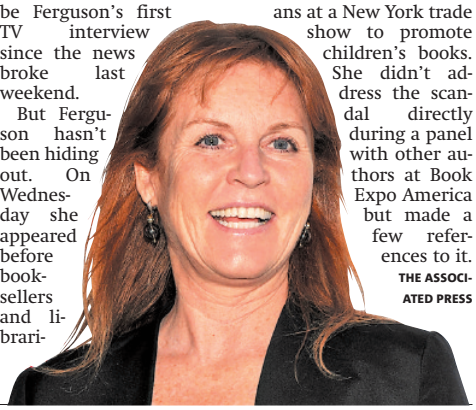
Just days ago, a British tabloid reported that Sarah Ferguson was caught on video offering access to her former husband, Prince Andrew, for $724,000. Now, she's going to tell her side of the story to Oprah Winfrey.

The Oprah Winfrey Show says the interview with the Duchess of York will air Tuesday.

The program says it will be Ferguson's first TV interview since the news broke last weekend.

But Ferguson hasn't been hiding out. On Wednesday she appeared before booksellers and librarians at a New York trade show to promote children's books. She didn't address the scandal directly during a panel with other authors at Book Expo America but made a few references to it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lohan really did lose her passport

BUT HER DOG DENIES CLAIMS OF EATING HER HOMEWORK It turns out that Lindsay Lohan was telling the truth about having a return flight from France booked for last week to get her home in time for the court date that she ended up missing, according to TMZ.

Lohan used a travel agency in Nashville to purchase the $6,860 ticket on Swiss Air but claims she couldn't take the flight because her passport had been stolen. But she's running out of allies, with ex-boyfriend Aaron Carter saying he hopes she ends up in jail.

"It hurts me to see that. I hope she can really learn something from this," Carter says, according to Hollyscoop. "They are going to make an example of you now, Lindsay, and you deserve it."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Garth blamed for split

IF YOU ARE GONNA MAKE UP A FAKE AFFAIR AT LEAST HAVE IT BE BRAD PITT OR GEORGE CLOONEY Country music star Garth Brooks has found himself in the middle of a divorce battle between a couple he's never met, according to the National Enquirer.

"My wife would leave the house for periods of time indicating that she was 'going to meet Garth,' referring to Garth Brooks, the country music singer," the husband claims in court papers obtained by the newspaper. "She claimed to be contacting him by e-mail, cell phone and in person."

The wife insists she's not obsessed with Brooks and has never met him, saying, "My husband was doing drugs, and when I found out, I stopped letting him see my son. That's when they cooked up this rumor I was having an affair with Garth Brooks."

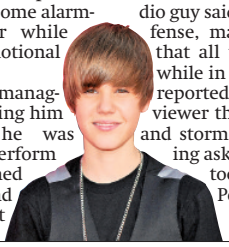
METRO WORLD NEWS

Bieber has a filthy mouth?

SO HE MIGHT BE A NORMAL TEENAGER AFTER ALL Maybe the strain of being a teen sensation is getting to Justin Bieber. Reports are surfacing of some alarming behavior while on his promotional tour.

"Our floor manager was directing him to where he was about to perform and he turned around and said, 'Don't ever f--ing touch me again,'" Australian TV show host David Koch says during an interview with Mix FM in Sydney. "His audio guy said, 'Don't take offense, mate. He tells us that all the time.'" And while in England, Bieber reportedly gave an interviewer the middle finger and stormed out after being asked about his tattoo, too, according to Perez Hilton.

METRO WORLD NEWS

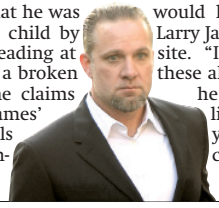


James' dad denies abuse claim

SEEMS LIKE JESSE IS RUNNING OUT OF SUPPORTERS Jesse James claimed during his recent interview with Nightline that he was abused as a child by his father, leading at one time to a broken arm. But the claims are false, James' dad tells Radar Online.

"My kids were my whole life. I would never ever hurt any one of them. I would have died before I would have hurt them," Larry James tells the website. "I think he made these allegations because he's told so many lies for so many years about his childhood."

METRO WORLD NEWS

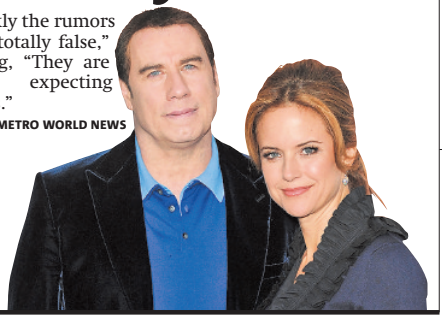


Twins on the way: Sources

THE MORE THE MERRIER Rumors are swirling that John Travolta and Kelly Preston are expecting not just one but two babies. Sources tell Star magazine that 47-year-old Preston is actually pregnant with twins.

"Now that there will be two, they can barely contain their happiness," a source tells the magazine. But Travolta's rep tells Us Weekly the rumors are "totally false," saying, "They are not expecting twins."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

LINDSAY LOHAN is star-struck, **BEN STILLER** was a 24 fan until the end, **MATTHEW PERRY** is still obsessing over Lost, and **LADY GAGA** is getting poetic.

@lindsaylohan
at a lunch mtng w/my friend Victoria & Johnny Depp just came and said hi to me, life is good. Need I say more? NOPE!

@RedHourBen
24 finale was really moving. That show was so consistently entertaining for so long. I will miss Jack Bauer.

@langfordperry
Knowing what we know now, is it worth going back to season 1 and watching all over again? Why am I up so late? Who am I talking to?

@ladygaga
Love is like a brick. You can build a house, or you can sink a dead body.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Carey, Cannon to be parents?

OR MAYBE SHE JUST DIDN'T WANT TO DO A TYLER PERRY FILM Mariah Carey has suddenly dropped out of Tyler Perry's film adaptation of For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf, fueling speculation that the singer and husband Nick Cannon may be expecting a child. "She is not doing the movie because her doctor advised her not to," a rep for Carey tells Us Weekly. "More than that I cannot comment further."

METRO WORLD NEWS

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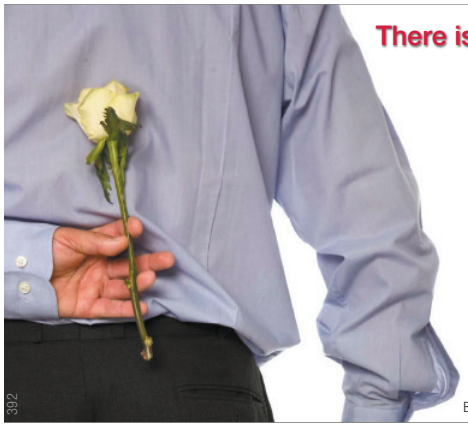
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Today Rain 80% 13° / 11°

Saturday Showers 40% 13° / 10°

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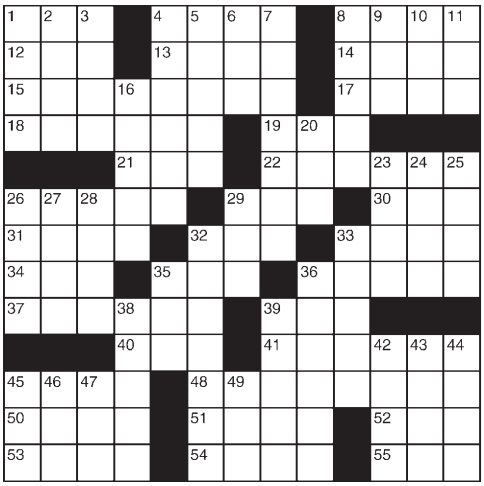


ACROSS

1 Spring mo.
4 Polio vaccine pioneer
8 Part of a Superman costume
12 Shelter
13 Entreaty
14 Bloodhound's clue
15 Broadcasting
17 Addict
18 Make beloved
19 Fourth after 1-Across
21 Branch
22 Listening to cheesy music, maybe
26 Water pitchers
29 — out a living
30 Life story, briefly
31 Make small talk
32 Pirouette pivot
33 Locate
34 That woman
35 Aachen article
36 Gambling game
37 Using the Internet
39 Scull tool
40 Peculiar
41 Says
45 Sped off
48 Chased by the cops, maybe
50 Sitarist's music
51 Existed
52 Time of your life?
53 PC picture
54 Gotta have
55 Just out

DOWN

1 Shaving cream additive
2 Teller's partner
3 Sent back (Abbr.)
4 "Oops! ... I Did It Again" singer
5 More than just startle
6 Mainlander's memento
7 Singalong of a sort
8 Cold symptom
9 Billboards
10 "Ulalume" writer
11 Mess up
16 Core
20 French article
23 Last writes?
24 Scourge of serge
25 Extinct bird
26 Reverberate
27 Timely query?
28 Count counterpart
29 A really long time
32 Secure with a rope
33 Specialty
35 Conclude
36 Used a woodshop machine
38 Hawkeye
39 Bizarre
42 Verve
43 Anger
44 Old World duck
45 Calendar hdg.
46 Fond du —
47 Freudian concept
49 Born

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

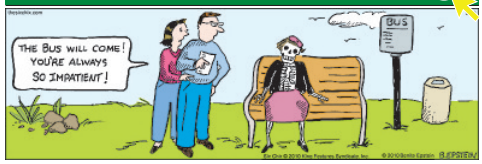
1				4				5
4	8						2	7
			5		7			
	9			3			6	8
		3				9		
5	2			9			4	
			3		9			
6	7						3	2
3				1				9

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

4	1	2	8	3	9	5	6	7
7	3	5	2	6	1	4	9	8
6	9	8	7	5	4	3	2	1
9	4	3	1	7	6	2	8	5
5	2	1	3	9	8	6	7	4
8	7	6	4	2	5	9	1	3
2	6	7	5	1	3	8	4	9
3	8	9	6	4	7	1	5	2
1	5	4	9	8	2	7	3	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day

Creole Skillet Dinner

INGREDIENTS:
4 cups chicken broth
2 1/2 cups uncooked long grain rice
1 cup chopped red onion
1 1/2 tsp minced garlic, divided
1 1/4 tsp chili powder
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp ground turmeric
1/4 tsp pepper
1 bay leaf
1 red pepper, julienned
1 green pepper, julienned
2 green onions, sliced
1 tsp minced fresh parsley
1/2 tsp basil
1/2 tsp thyme
1/4 tsp hot pepper sauce
2 tbsp butter
1 cup sliced mushrooms
1 tomato, chopped
1 cup peas
500 g boneless skinless chicken breasts, sliced
2 tbsp lemon juice
1/3 cup sliced almonds, toasted

METHOD:
1. In pot, bring broth, rice, onion, 1 tsp garlic, chili powder, salt, turmeric, pepper and bay leaf to boil. Cover; simmer 20 minutes or until rice is tender. Discard bay leaf.
2. In skillet, stir peppers, onions, parsley, basil, thyme, pepper sauce and remaining garlic in butter over medium-high heat 2 minutes. Add mushrooms; cook until peppers are crisp-tender. Add tomato and peas; heat through. Remove from heat. Add rice.
3. In another skillet, stir chicken in lemon juice over medium-high heat until chicken juices run clear. Toss with rice mixture; sprinkle with almonds.

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Don't waste time asking yourself why certain events had to take place. What's done is done and the only thing that matters now is how you choose to react.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
There are changes in the air, changes that you can profit from if you stay calm and keep your eye on your number one aim.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
What matters now is the big picture. What matters now is the grand design. You know that you are capable of so much more.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Something you are involved in and believe in has, until now, been more about talk than about action.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Something extraordinary and unexpected will happen today and if you are quick off the mark you can be the one who gains the most from it.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
An upheaval of some kind will throw those around you into a tizzy today but you will stay calm and stay focused on your number one aim.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Friends and family may not approve of what you are doing but you are not about to let that hold you back.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
As Uranus moves into the work and wellbeing area of your chart today you will no doubt be thinking about ways you can improve your daily routine.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You are about to undergo a radical change in your outlook, the kind of change that happens only two or three times in a life span.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You will be expected to give up something you have grown used to and fond of, but deep down you know it is time to move on.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Uranus, your ruler, moves into one of the more positive areas of the sky for you today and it won't be long before you feel the benefits.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
What you must remember today is that everything you do in your life, whether on a physical, mental or emotional level, affects everyone else.

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This day in history

585 BCE: A solar eclipse occurs, as predicted by Greek philosopher and scientist Thales, while Alyattes is battling Cyaxares in the Battle of the Eclipse, leading to a truce. This is one of the cardinal dates from which other dates can be calculated.
1998: Nuclear testing: Pakistan responds to a series of nuclear tests by India with five of its own, prompting the United States, Japan, and other nations to impose economic sanctions.
2008: The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly of Nepal formally declares Nepal a republic, ending the 240-year reign of the Shah dynasty. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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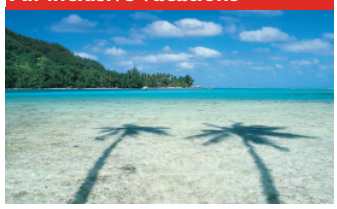

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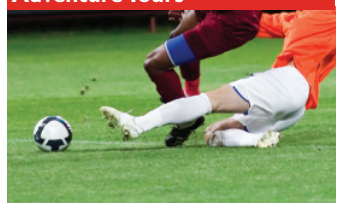

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taxes & fees included
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